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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial.

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2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

License Bill Passed Second Reading in the Senate.

General Appropriation and New County Bills Passed.

County Salary Bill Killed for This Session.

The House Makes Frantic Efforts to Catch Up with the Senate Business.

SENATE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 15, 1875.

Mr. Rutan called up the bill to provide for the ordinary expenses of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments of the Commonwealth, interest on the public debt and for common schools for the year A. D. 1875, and it was passed unanimously.

Fifteen other appropriation bills passed first reading.

The following passed finally:

The New County bill.

A supplement to an act dividing the cities of this State into three classes and other purposes, approved May 23, A. D. 1874.

The Local Option Repeal bill was taken up and discussed by Messrs. Beehtel and Cooper, on the license amendment.

At the afternoon session, Mr. Rutan presented a lengthy report from the Finance committee on the financial condition of the State, showing the responsibility of the House for the failure of the bill to meet the wants of the Treasury, and the consequent inability to make appropriations to benevolent institutions.

Mr. Playford said he would submit the minority report.

The Finance Committee then reported thirty appropriation bills, twenty-two with negative recommendation, four as committed and four with amendments.

The Morgantza Reform School gets $6,500 for salaries, but nothing for building purposes.

Dixmont gets the usual appropriation.

The Local Option bill came up and was debated by Messrs. Cooper, Davis, Anderson, of Allegheny, Newmyer, Wood, Chalfant, Winslow and others.

A motion to strike from the license bill the section repealing local option was defeated—17 to 25.

The License bill was then amended, reducing the fees. The maximum is $1,000 for sales of ten thousand dollars per annum, and $100 for sales of four thousand dollars and under.

The bill passed second reading, 28 to 17. Five Republicans voted in the affirmative, and all the Democrats in the negative, but Buckwell.

The following passed second reading: "A supplement to an act entitled "An act to provide for the destruction and prevention of the spread of Canada thistles," approved the 22d day of March, 1862.

An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to allow the voters of the borough of Uniontille, county of Chester, to vote on the question of granting licenses to sell intoxicating liquors."

An act to provide for appeals in cases where the county commissioners and auditors have failed or shall hereafter fail to fix the compensation of county treasurers, and to repeal an act entitled "A supplement to an act relating to county treasurers, passed the 15th day of April, 1854," approved the 18th day of April, 1874, in regard to the compensation of county treasurers.

Then adjourned.

HOUSE.

At the morning and afternoon sessions, the House passed seventy-one Senate bills first reading, and negatived four.

The following passed second reading:

An act requiring recorders of deeds to prepare and keep in their respective offices general, direct and *ad secturn* index of deeds and morigages recorded therein, prescribing the duties of said recorders, and declaring that the entries in said general index shall be notice to all persons.

A supplement to an act relative to forfeiture of charters or grants of special or exclusive privileges to railroad, turnpike and plank road corporations, approved May 15, 1874, prescribing the manner in which said corporations shall consent to said charters subject to the provisions of the Constitution adopted December 1873.

An act to punish persons for carrying concealed weapons within this Commonwealth.

An act to repeal the first section of an act relative to the appointment of sealer of weights and measures, approved the 26th day of February, 1872, so far as the same relates to the appointment of such officer and for the county of Dauphin.

An act to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, and for the preservation of order at soldiers' encampments and reunions.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize married women owning lands of the Commonwealth or of the city of Philadelphia, or capital stock of any corporation of this Commonwealth, to sell and transfer the same," approved the 1st day of April, A. D. 1874, extending the provisions of said act so as to include the lands as well as the capital stock of corporations of this Commonwealth.

A joint resolution to provide for the payment of B. F. Boroughs, engineer, and Daniel Best and William McGuire, firemen, for services rendered from October to December 1st, 1874, under direction of the Chief Clerk.

An act to authorize the Attorney General of Auditor General and State Treasurer to settle all outstanding claims due for work done and material furnished the late Constitutional Convention.

A joint resolution for the appointment of a clerk and accountant by the committee on the House to investigate the State Treasury, and to pay them their compensation.

The following was negatived:

A supplement to an act entitled "An act to establish an insurance department," approved the 4th day of April, A. D. 1873, relating to the capital stock of foreign insurance companies to certificates of said companies to companies of the State incorporated after April 4, 1873, to insurance brokers and making certain violations of law misdemeanors, and prescribing penalties therefor, relating to the liability of unlicensed agents, to receivers, to the reserve of certain life companies, and to decrees and pecials therefrom.

The County Salary bill was laid over, which kills it for this session.

The evening session was devoted to the Judicial Salary bill, on which there was a protracted debate.

A motion to reduce the salaries of county judges to four thousand dollars, made by the opponents of the Senate bill, was lost by 62 to 112.

The bil passed second reading, as it came from the Senate—ayes 96, nays 80.

The following passed finally:

An act to repeal an act, entitled "An act relating to fees of burgesses, justices of the peace and constables in the county of Dauphin," approved the 4th day of April, 1872.

At ten o'clock the House adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA.

Action of the American Iron and Steel Association on the Bill for the Settlement of Disputes Between Employers and Employed.

PHILADELPHIA, March 15.—A large meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Iron and Steel Association was held this morning. The chairman stated he had been requested to take some action in regard to the bill introduced in the Lower House of the Legislature. The bill having been discussed, the chairman submitted a communication on the subject from the counsel of the association, which was approved. The counsel states that he has examined a copy of the bill, entitled "An act for the adjustment and settlement of disputes between persons, partnerships, associations and corporations engaged in the mining of coal or the manufacture or production of iron or steel, and their employees, &c., and says it is unconstitutional, 'establishing, as it does, an industrial tribunal which exercises judicial functions. The bill is criticised as an inquisitorious scheme of legislation.

CLEVELAND.

Doctor Arrested for Murder.

CLEVELAND, March 15.—Dr. H. W. Libby, of this city, was arrested last week charged with having produced the death of Mrs. J. W. Derr, of Newburg, Ohio, by tempting to produce an abortion. The doctor waived an examination, and was held in $7,000 bail to appear before the Court of Common Pleas. Dr. Libby was convicted some years ago for a similar offence and was sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years, but was pardoned out after serving one year.

TILTON-BEECHER.

A STRIDE FORWARD IN THE GREAT TRIAL.

Testimony of John W. Harmon, Jackson S. Schultz,

Charles S. Judson, Archibald Black and J. H. Drake.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Notwithstanding the rain to-day, many women made their way to the Brooklyn City Court room, and had secured seats when the great scandal trial was resumed. Mr. Beecher and wife came into court, attended by Jackson S. Shultz. Mr. Tilton sat with his lawyers, but ex-Judge Fullerton was still absent. Mrs. Tilton and her friends did not appear, nor was Mr. Evarts or Judge Porter present when the proceedings began.

John W. Harmon was the first witness called. He testified, in answer to Mr. Hill: I have lived in Brooklyn ten years, and for four years held the office of Supervisor. I have known Tilton since he was editor of the Brooklyn *Union*. After Mr. Tilton received his discharge from the Brooklyn *Union*, he told me of it, and I said I hoped it was not in consequence of taking my advice about the Western campaign, and he said it was that among other things; he told me all the circumstances of his discharge. I met him after this by appointment at a restaurant; there were some persons in the room; the old matter came up of his being dismissed from the *Union;* he said he was determined to collect the money that Bowen owed him, and he said he would revive an old slander that Bowen had uttered—charges against one of the best men in brooklyn, and he remarked that this would bring matters to the surface; he said that Beecher had committed an offense against him and his family; that his wife had told him Beecher had taken advantage of his position and had made dishonorable proposals to his (Tilton's) wife on several occasions. Tilton said his wife, before she told the story, extracted a promise from her husband not to injure or harm the person involved in this matter. We had a consultation lasting about two hours, but I can not recollect anything more that was said. I have been an admirer of Beecher as a public man for a long time, but do not know whether Tilton was cognizant of this. When Tilton had prepared his "True Story," he read it to me. I remember when the Woodhull scandal was published. Tilton was then in New Hampshire. I met him on his return and asked him, for his family, to contradict this monstrous story. He said he supposed he could not. I reminded him of his duty to his wife and family, and he repeated his former observation.

He did not, in this conversation, charge his wife with adultery. At the first interview Tilton did not enjoin secrecy on me, but he did afterward tell me not to mention this matter to any person. After the Woodhull publication Tilton told me I might tell any of my friends that I desired, and I think he mentioned some of them in particular, and one Dwight Johnston, a member of the Board of Supervisors, a friend of mine. In September, 1872, Tilton, at my house, showed me the "True Story," which he said bore a statement of the facts from 1856 to that time, and he read it to me and a few friends present. I know McKelvey, of the Brooklyn *Eagle*. Tilton had then showed me a proof-slip of January, 1871. I told McKelvey that Tilton had something which he ought to see.

Cross-examined by Mr. Beach—I think this first interview with Tilton, in the restaurant, occurred in the spring of 1872. I think he then showed me a letter he had written to Bowen and a letter from Bowen, written from Woodstock, and containing something about Western politics. This letter almost commanded him to support Webster. I was on the other side, and so was interested in the matter. Tilton never at any time made any charges against his wife, but they were always against Beecher. He always spoke of his wife as pure and very religious. I do not know what became of the "True Story" after it was read to myself and friends by Tilton. When Tilton left the papers at my house, with a note, McKelvey called shortly after and said he was to have them by arrangement with Tilton, so that they might be submitted to eminent counsel by the *Eagle* people. I asked McKelvey who was the eminent counsel, and he replied "General Tracy." I told him I would give him the papers if he would take them to Tilton's house and obtain his consent, or tell him that he (McKelvey) had got them, and he left with them. I was always anxious that Tilton should publish a vindication of his wife and children. At the interview in Fulton street, after his return from New Hampshire, I also asked him to contradict the stories. I offered Tilton five thousand dollars to have the story published, but I do not remember saying that he could make fifty thousand out of it. I said that if a million copies of this story were published they would sell for twenty-five cents a piece, as every person was anxious to hear the truth of the matter.

Jackson S. Schultz then took the stand. He testified: I reside in New York, and am a leather merchant. I have known Theodore Tilton since 1864 or 1865. He was on the *Independent* then, I think, and my relations with him were very kindly and cordial. A few weeks before the issue of the *Golden Age* I was applied to by him to assist in the enterprise. The conversation turned on the Woodhulls, and a gentleman from Wall street made some observations upon them. Tilton defended them and said they were highened, honorable ladies. Franklin Woodruff called with Tilton at my house about it. We discussed the probabilities of its success, and I asked if Beecher would assist. Tilton said he thought he would; and I asked if Beecher would contribute articles to it, and Tilton said he would if he (Tilton) would permit him. I agreed to aid Tilton, at the next interview. I was to aid him to the extent of fifteen hundred dollars, and so did my partner, Southwick. If the enterprise succeeded we were to be paid back, and if it failed we were to lose the money. Tilton, in his conversations met me; frequently said Bowen had done him a great wrong and that Beecher had refused to put out his hand to save him. After the starting of the *Golden Age* I was present at a dinner given to Isaac H. Bailey, before he left for Europe. The conversation became personal and heated, and I interfered to modify it. I saw Tilton after the publication of the Woodhull biography, and told him I was disgusted with this work and that he had destroyed the *Golden Age* enterprise. He took the ground that he always defended the weak against the strong, and said they were pure women. After this our relations continued, and the relations between Mrs. Tilton and Beecher were frequently the subject of conversation. Once, in my office, I said: "Do you mean to tell me that Beecher had criminal relations with your wife?" and he said, with a theatrical air, "My wife is as pure as an angel."

This was after the Woodhull publication. I had a conversation with Frank Carpenter. After this, in December, 1872, I had a conversation with Carpenter about starting a newspaper in New York. I had a conversation with Tilton afterward, in which I told him what Carpenter had said. In January, 1873, Tilton came into my office and said he understood that I had charged him with blackmailing, and I asked him who told him, and he said Frank Carpenter. I told him of the interview with Carpenter, and I told him of the interview the friends of Beecher and Tilton had at the Union League Club, at which it was proposed to start a morning paper in New York, Beecher to be its editor-in-chief, while Tilton was to go to Europe as its foreign correspondent. These two gentlemen, Carpenter and Tilton, had a paper in their possession which was to be used for the purpose of procuring one of them a situation on the paper, therefore I had characterized it as a blackmailing job. Carpenter said the arrangement with regard to Tilton was to give a change of scene to him and divert his mind. I told Tilton that I said to Carpenter it would be a sorry change for Beecher to leave the pulpit for the editor's chair, and that he would in that capacity be more open to attack. At another interview, in the Union League Club, with Tilton, when Moulton was present, Mr. Moulton said I had made rather a grave charge against Tilton and that he thought I should apologize or take it back. We then went over the ground again of the interview with Carpenter. I said to them that this interview with Carpenter had developed such a state of facts as justified me, I believed, in what I said. I told them they did not know the story as told me by Carpenter. I told them also that Carpenter had mentioned the idea of purchasing the New York *Express*, turning it into a morning paper and putting Beecher at the head of it, and all this was to be done on the strength of these papers. Moulton then told me that this was not all the story. After recess, Mr. Schultz's direct examination was continued. He said: I repeated to Tilton what Carpenter said about Moulton's occupying a medium position between the two parties and acting as a friend in the matter. Carpenter, I told Tilton, had said that Moulton was representing Brooklyn friends of Tilton. Tilton did not make any reply that I can remember. I never received a letter from Beecher about a newspaper enterprise or calling Theodore Tilton a blackmailer. I had two interviews with Carpenter; Wm. Orton and Henry Clews were then present. Tilton afterward showed me a check for $7,000 from Bowen, as a settlement of his difficulties with him, and he showed me a statement to be published by him, declaring that a settlement had been made. He also stated that Bowen would publish a statement of the same character. Tilton said, in substance, at one time, that unless justice was done him he had power to blow the roof off Plymouth Church.

Cross-examined—This latter occurred in my office. I think about a month before he exhibited to me the Bowen check. I do not remember the year. I have conversed during the intermission of court with my partner and Mr. Tracy. I do not recollect the date at which Tilton showed me the check. He said: "I have settled the whole controversy with these Brooklyn fellows and brought them down to their marrow." He then showed me the statement he was to publish in his paper, and either showed me the statement Bowen was to publish or related its substance to me. The interview four or five weeks previous to the exhibition of the check, was in my office; no person was present but Tilton and myself. The usual clerks employed in the office were in the outside portion of the room. I do not remember how the conversation began, or how the subject was opened. Tilton came in and began his usual topic of the Brooklyn difficulty, referring to his being wronged and broken down. I asked him if he charged Beecher with committing adultery with his wife, and he rose up and, swinging his arms around in a theatrical manner, replied: "My wife is as pure as an angel." The remark about blowing the roof off of the church came in this conversation, but I do not remember the connection in which it was introduced.

Charles S. Judson was next called, and testified: I reside in New York and have done so for twenty or twenty-five years. I have known Beecher twenty years, and Tilton about fifteen years. I am a merchant and conduct business in Worthstreet. I had a conversation with Tilton, at Delmonico's, about the end of 1865, where we dined together. We had a conversation about Beecher and members of Plymouth Church. At that interview. I only remember a discussion about Beecher, and I said that Beecher had escaped all charges, so far as women were concerned, in all the time I had been there. Tilton said he had lost all faith in the man. I said this meant something, and asked him for an explanation.

Mr. Beach here arose and objected to this line of examination, as not pertinent and material to the issue and not a part of the trial.

Mr. Evarts said that they would offer something hereafter that would develop the materiality of this line of examination.

Judge Neilson decided on allowing the conversation.

The witness then continued: To all my inquiries he still replied: "I have lost all faith in the man." Tilton called on me two or three days after that and asked me if I had seen Beecher. I said I had, and had told him the conversation we had a few days ago. Tilton asked why, and I replied: To put him on his guard; that I would have done the same thing by him, and he said he always considered me a friend, and left.

This concluded the witness' testimony, and Mr. Beach moved to strike it out.

Judge Neilson said he would let it stand, as he thought it was about as harmless as a lamp-post. [Laughter.]

Mr. Evarts here rose and took exception to the remark of the Court, and stated that before they would close they would show the materiality of this evidence.

Archibald Black, a resident of Brooklyn and a merchant in New York, was then called, and related a conversation with Moulton, at the Exchange, in which the latter had said the best course for Beecher to pursue under the charges would be to keep silent, and that if his life was of sufficient answer to these charges he (Moulton) did not know what was. The witness said: Moulton told me that if the story was untrue, to publish it would be diabolical. He intimated to me that I might use any information he had given me among friends in the Church of the Pilgrims. At another interview he told me that all the charges against Beecher had originated with one individual, who had signed a retraction of them. At a third interview at the Exchange, he asked me if it was true that Beecher's name had been scraped off a notice read in the Church of the Pilgrims, and I told him it was not true. I also told him that the story was spreading and he and his friends were using no efforts to check it. Moulton said he saw I was touched and he would see that he knew all about it, and that Beecher was a pure man. I asked him did he mean that Beecher was not guilty of breaking the sixth commandment, and he replied, after a little hesitation: "I do." I asked him if he meant that he had always been a pure man, and he replied: "Yes, I mean that."

Cross-examined by Mr. Beach—I remember an excursion I took down the river, on the 12th of October, 1871, with Beecher, Tilton and Moulton. I observed that Beecher was disposed to keep himself aloof from the general company, and I thought Beecher and Tilton were not cordial on that occasion. On coming home I ascended the hill, from Wall street ferry, with Beecher, and we had some talk about Rev. Dr. Taylor. I expressed regret at Dr. Taylor's going to New York, as Moulton was deeply interested in Beecher preaching, and Beecher said Frank was a noble fellow; he was yet young and would be right in time.

Re-direct examination—I did not hear Beecher asked to meet Mrs. Woohull at Moulton's house on the return from the yatching expedition.

Mr. Shearman then read the deposition of J. H. Drake, who is now in Europe, and whose testimony was taken before he went there. It was taken before Judge McCue, in Brooklyn, and set forth that, in conversation with him, Moulton had denied that these charges were true, and had always maintained that Beecher was a pure man.

The court adjourned.

CINCINNATI.

Opening of Bids for Bridge for the Cincinnati Southern Railway.

CINCINNATI, March 15.—The trustees of the Cincinnati Southern Railway to-day opened twelve bids for the construction of a bridge over the Kentucky river. Ten of these bids are for the construction of a truss bridge, one for an arch and one for a wire suspension bridge. The structure, as a truss, will be 1,100 feet long, and as a suspension bridge its total length will be 1,240 feet. Its height above the river is to be 275 feet. The bids are as follows: McNary & Claflin, Cleveland, Ohio, $289,000; American Bridge Company, Chicago, $294,940; Soulerin, James & Co., Milwaukee, $349,000; Baltic Bridge Co., Baltimore (three styles), $358,000, $344,000 and $350,000, respectively; Louisville Bridge Company, Louisville, $355,000; Watson Manufacturing Company, Paterson, N. J. (two bids), $339,000 and $348,000; Clark, Reeves & Co., Philadelphia, $369,288; Flad and Pfeifer, St. Louis, $374,760; Keystone Bridge Company, Pittsburgh, $409,800; Clark McDonald, New York (two bids), $375,000 and $469,000; G. Leopold, Cincinnati (arch bridge), $410,000; Jno. A. Roebling's Sons, Trenton, New Jersey (suspension), $410,000. The award will be announced in a few days.

Three bids were also opened for the completion of the remaining one-third of King's mountain tunnel, of which two-thirds are already finished.

Attempted Murder in Court by a St. Louis Boy.

ST. LOUIS, March 15.—On the twenty-third of September last, while several boys were playing on the street near the corner of Christy avenue and Seventeenth street, a little son of Robert Boatright was killed by a brick supposed to have been thrown by a boy named Charles Woodson. This afternoon, while Woodson was being tried in the Criminal Court, and while counsel were arguing a legal point, another son of Mr. Boatright, about sixteen years old, stepped up to Woodson and said: "You killed my brother; I will kill you," and plunged a butcher knife into his abdomen, up to the handle. Woodson fell to the floor, his bowels protruding in a terrible manner. His wound is mortal. Young Boatright was immediately seized by the Deputy Marshal and placed in jail.

Cross-examined by Mr. Shearman—I remember an excursion I took down the river, on the 12th of October, 1871, with Beecher, Tilton and Moulton. I observed that Beecher was disposed to keep himself aloof from the general company, and I thought Beecher and Tilton were not cordial on that occasion. On coming home I ascended the hill, from Wall street ferry, with Beecher, and we had some talk about Rev. Dr. Taylor. I expressed regret at Dr. Taylor's going to New York, as Moulton was deeply interested in Beecher preaching, and Beecher said Frank was a noble fellow; he was yet young and would be right in time.

The Expulsion of Senator Sebastian.

There is an effort being made to have the Committee on Privileges accept the petition of the children of the late Senator Sebastian, of Arkansas, asking that the resolution of expulsion against him be rescinded. It is not possible, however, to dispose of this matter at this session, for before it will lead to debate. The object of the petitioners is to draw the pay which would have accrued to Mr. Sebastian during the remainder of his term, and as a preliminary to this the recording of the expulsion resolution is necessary.

Mob at the White House.

A riotous crowd of whites and blacks, led by a noisy demogogue with a band of music, assembled in front of the President's house to-night and, in a most impudent manner, demanded an audience of the President in order to ask the removal of one of the District Commissioners. The President declined to receive the committee of the crowd outside, whereupon the ringleader made a denunciatory speech from the portico of the mansion. The leader is a notorious character here, well known as a public nuisance.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 15, 1875.

THE VIRGINIUS SETTLEMENT—SYNOPSIS OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY FISH AND MINISTER CUSHING.

The Secretary of State to-day communicated to the Senate, in accordance with the resolution of that body, the correspondence between the United States and the Spanish Government, in relation to the claim for indemnity from Spain for the execution, at Santiago de Cuba, of the officers and crew of the steamer Virginius. The Secretary reports that the claim has been disposed of by the agreement entered into by Minister Cushing and the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs. The correspondence dates as far back as November 29, 1873, giving the facts of the Virginius difficulty, and includes the Fish-Polo protocol; also, the report of the Naval Court of Inquiry convened by Secretary Robeson January 3d, 1874.

The British Government in making its demand for indemnity for the British subjects taken from the Virginius and murdered, fixed the sum at £100 sterling pounds for each white man, and three hundred pounds for each colored man, the sum total amounting to seven thousand seven hundred pounds, there being ten white men and nine negroes killed. After much negotiation, Spain agreed to pay six thousand seven hundred pounds, or the thousand pounds less than was first demanded, with the stipulation that if any of the families or heirs of persons slain did not make claim to the money, the amount they would be entitled to should be returned to the Spanish Government. The proposition was accepted by Great Britain.

Minister Cushing, on November 25, informed the Secretary of State that the Spanish Government would do the same for the United States as it would for Great Britain. Secretary Fish informed Minister Cushing that the United States would not take less. Secretary Fish's instructions to Minister Cushing are as follows:

They are dated November 28th, 1874. In settlement of all the crew not claimed by Great Britain, and for whom we do not receive indemnity, and who must be treated as American seamen, no less sum can be accepted for white persons, namely, not less than $2,500. The captain, chief engineers, pursers and doctor should be allowed more. Three of the passengers alone are understood to be American citizens, and must be allowed for the same as the others. You will ask indemnity for the detention and imprisoning and for losses sustained by those of the crew and passengers who are American citizens, who were not executed. We understand the number to be fifteen of the crew, including two engineers and one assistant, and four of the passengers—nineteen in all.

On December 30, 1874, Secretary Fish writes to Mr. Cushing expressing surprise that Minister Ulloa should have deemed it necessary, even in deference to public feeling in Spain, to refer to the executions at Santiago as "the strict fulfillment of the laws in special circumstances," or as called for by "the imperious voice of duty," or to take from the moral effect of the indemnity proposed by characterizing the reparation as "actuated by sentiments of pity or consent on a duty fulfilled, and as caused by a desire to alleviate the misfortunes of those who suffer through punishment imposed on others by the law." I could have hoped that a review of all the facts attending the executions, and a consideration at this late day of these barbarous and cruel acts, happily without a parallel, would have deterred the accomplished Minister of State from the use of any expressions, and from allowing himself to be committed to any views tending to justify those executions. While such expressions, accompanying an offer of settlement, may not prevent the acceptance of the offer, this Government would fail in its duty did it not signify its dissent from expressions tending to justify or apologize for the acts; and this may be done, as suggested by you and approved in my telegram of December 11th, by a counter protest or joint memorandum precluding any inferences adverse to the position of this Government in regard to the acts complained of. Without considering what supposed necessity may demand such an apparent justification, I cannot but believe that had Spain joined the civilized world in a denunciation of these executions, and had she long since visited prompt and effective punishment on the guilty parties, the moral support she would have gained thereby would have largely exceeded any corresponding detriment.

Here follows the draft of the agreement between the United States and Spain, in substance as follows: In the case of the United States, Secretary Fish made a claim on the basis of twenty-five hundred dollars for each of the crew slain, without regard to color, and a larger sum for each officer slain, without specifying any particular sum. This demand was pressed and adhered to strenuously, until the Spanish Government yielded and consented to pay eighty thousand dollars in gold, unconditionally, the money to be distributed by the United States Government without any accountability for sums not claimed, as in the case of Great Britain.

Secretary Fish telegraphed to Minister Cushing, March 3, 1875: "You are authorized to present credentials, if immediately thereafter the final agreement will be signed."

Minister Cushing telegraphed to Secretary Fish, March 9: "Official agreement has been signed substantially as telegraphed on the 2d. Credentials to be presented on the 10th inst."

Minister Cushing telegraphed March 12: "Credentials presented on the 10th, ratification signed on the 11th and sent same day by express."

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Steam Boiler Commission.

HOPES FOR THE SUCCESS OF ITS EXPERIMENTS.

Vice President Wilson in the Presidential Field.

He Explains His Connection with the Lost Bounty Bill.

GENERAL BUTLER EXPLAINS THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

Colored People Have No Equality in Bar-Rooms.

Senator Bayard to Stump Connecticut for the Democracy.

RIOTOUS PROCEEDINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

A Mob Calls on the President to Remove a District Commissioner.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 15, 1875.

Steam Boiler Commission.

The Commission instituted by act of Congress, two years ago, for the purpose of inquiring into the causes of steam boiler explosions, has just assembled at New York. From information received at the Treasury Department, the Commission promises important results. Under the old management, Secretary Bristow, when he entered the office of Secretary of the Treasury, had every reason to believe that the one hundred thousand dollars, of which amount forty thousand dollars had already been expended, would be squandered if prompt measures were not at once adopted to continue the experiments in a more scientific manner. This led to the demolition of Supervising Inspector General Smith and the substitution of Prof. Winlock. It is under the new and more favorable auspices of organization and scientific skill, that the experimental commission now meets. The experience of the past two seasons under the old management has been valuable, the uselessness of the instruments then used. During the past winter numerous experiments were made in devising new and more correct reliable instruments, such as gauges and pyrometers. In the former tests, as much as one hundred pounds and a degree's difference were found to exist. It is now believed that instruments have been devised which will act with uniformity and accuracy. The Commission will not be able to complete their experiments this season, but the most useful discoveries and beneficial results are now assured. There still remains about forty thousand dollars of the original appropriation, which will be sufficient to complete the work. Professor R. H. Thurston, of the Stevens Institute of Technology, Department of Engineering, has been appointed a member of the experimental commission, in place of Mr. Crawford, of Pittsburgh, deceased.

Vice President Wilson and the Bounty Bill.

Vice President Wilson is engaged in preparing a statement of his action and views with reference to the bounty bill. He states that the soldiers used the money and are entitled to it and should have it. The Vice President has entered the list as a Presidential aspirant.

Butler Expounds Civil Rights.

General Butler received, this morning, a letter from some colored citizens in the South inquiring whether, under the Civil Rights bill, they had not the privilege of the accommodations of bar-rooms. General Butler has replied that the Civil Rights bill does not confer upon them this privilege; that the privilege existing during the slavery is reserved exclusively for white men, and he hopes never to hear of colored citizens thrusting themselves into such places.

Help for Connecticut Democrats.

Senator Bayard has accepted an invitation to stump Connecticut for the Democrats. He expects to do better than Gordon and Lamar did in New Hampshire.

The Expulsion of Senator Sebastian.

There is an effort being made to have the Committee on Privileges accept the petition of the children of the late Senator Sebastian, of Arkansas, asking that the resolution of expulsion against him be rescinded. It is not possible, however, to dispose of this matter at this session, for before it will lead to debate. The object of the petitioners is to draw the pay which would have accrued to Mr. Sebastian during the remainder of his term, and as a preliminary to this the recording of the expulsion resolution is necessary.

Mob at the White House.

A riotous crowd of whites and blacks, led by a noisy demogogue with a band of music, assembled in front of the President's house to-night and, in a most impudent manner, demanded an audience of the President in order to ask the removal of one of the District Commissioners. The President declined to receive the committee of the crowd outside, whereupon the ringleader made a denunciatory speech from the portico of the mansion. The leader is a notorious character here, well known as a public nuisance.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 15, 1875.

THE VIRGINIUS SETTLEMENT—SYNOPSIS OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY FISH AND MINISTER CUSHING.

The Secretary of State to-day communicated to the Senate, in accordance with the resolution of that body, the correspondence between the United States and the Spanish Government, in relation to the claim for indemnity from Spain for the execution, at Santiago de Cuba, of the officers and crew of the steamer Virginius. The Secretary reports that the claim has been disposed of by the agreement entered into by Minister Cushing and the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs. The correspondence dates as far back as November 29, 1873, giving the facts of the Virginius difficulty, and includes the Fish-Polo protocol; also, the report of the Naval Court of Inquiry convened by Secretary Robeson January 3d, 1874.

The British Government in making its demand for indemnity for the British subjects taken from the Virginius and murdered, fixed the sum at £100 sterling pounds for each white man, and three hundred pounds for each colored man, the sum total amounting to seven thousand seven hundred pounds, there being ten white men and nine negroes killed. After much negotiation, Spain agreed to pay six thousand seven hundred pounds, or the thousand pounds less than was first demanded, with the stipulation that if any of the families or heirs of persons slain did not make claim to the money, the amount they would be entitled to should be returned to the Spanish Government. The proposition was accepted by Great Britain.

Minister Cushing, on November 25, informed the Secretary of State that the Spanish Government would do the same for the United States as it would for Great Britain. Secretary Fish informed Minister Cushing that the United States would not take less. Secretary Fish's instructions to Minister Cushing are as follows:

They are dated November 28th, 1874. In settlement of all the crew not claimed by Great Britain, and for whom we do not receive indemnity, and who must be treated as American seamen, no less sum can be accepted for white persons, namely, not less than $2,500. The captain, chief engineers, pursers and doctor should be allowed more. Three of the passengers alone are understood to be American citizens, and must be allowed for the same as the others. You will ask indemnity for the detention and imprisoning and for losses sustained by those of the crew and passengers who are American citizens, who were not executed. We understand the number to be fifteen of the crew, including two engineers and one assistant, and four of the passengers—nineteen in all.

On December 30, 1874, Secretary Fish writes to Mr. Cushing expressing surprise that Minister Ulloa should have deemed it necessary, even in deference to public feeling in Spain, to refer to the executions at Santiago as "the strict fulfillment of the laws in special circumstances," or as called for by "the imperious voice of duty," or to take from the moral effect of the indemnity proposed by characterizing the reparation as "actuated by sentiments of pity or consent on a duty fulfilled, and as caused by a desire to alleviate the misfortunes of those who suffer through punishment imposed on others by the law." I could have hoped that a review of all the facts attending the executions, and a consideration at this late day of these barbarous and cruel acts, happily without a parallel, would have deterred the accomplished Minister of State from the use of any expressions, and from allowing himself to be committed to any views tending to justify those executions. While such expressions, accompanying an offer of settlement, may not prevent the acceptance

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

England.

REVIVAL MEETINGS OF MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKY.

LONDON, March 15.—Immense crowds continue to attend the revival meetings held by Rev. Messrs. Moody and Sanky. To-night over 20,000 people were present, and thousands were turned away. The streets in the vicinity of the hall were choked with people unable to obtain admission.

DEATH OF SIR WILLIAM MAYNARD GOMM.

LONDON, March 15.—Field Marshal Sir William Maynard Gomm, Colonel of the Coldstream Guards and Constable of the Tower, died yesterday, aged ninety-one. He was quartermaster General at Waterloo and Commander-in-Chief of India in 1850.

France.

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ELECTED.

PARIS, March 15.—The Assembly to-day elected Duke D'Audiffret Pasquier its President. The number of votes cast was 708, of which the Duke received 418.

Italy.

THE CONSISTORY YESTERDAY—THE NEW CARDINALS.—NEW METROPOLITAN SEES IN AMERICA.

ROME, March 15.—The Consistory was held at the Vatican to-day. Archbishops Manning, of Westminster, Ledochowski, of Posen and Gunsen, McCloskey, of New York, Deschamps, of Molines, and Monsignors Gianelli and Bartolini were created Cardinals. Philadelphia, Boston and Milwaukee were raised to the rank of metropolitan sees. Bishops were appointed for the dioceses of Wheeling, Portland, Hartford and Kingston. An allocution was delivered by the Pope.

Marine News.

LONDON, March 15.—Steamships India, Algeria and World, from New York, and Ohio, from Philadelphia, arrived off Queenstown, March 15.—Arrived—Steamship France, from New York.

PLYMOUTH, March 15.—The steamship Sigovia, from New York, has arrived.

European Markets.

LONDON, March 15, 5 P. M.—Rate for discount in open market for three months' bills, 2 7-16 per cent. Bar silver quoted at 52d. Bank of England rate. Consols for money 92¼@92⅜; for account 92⅜@92½. United States bonds—5s 1881, 107½; do 1867, 107½; 10 40's, 103; new 5's, 105½. New York Central 92; Erie 20¼; preferred 39. Illinois Central 98; 7s 92¾@93. Paris, March 15.—Rentes 65 francs 95 centimes.

FRANKFORT, March 15.—5-20s 103, 85.

LIVERPOOL, March 15.—Cotton quiet, middling uplands 7¾d; middling Orleans 7¾d. Sales of 12,000 bales, including 2,000 for speculation and export, and 8,800 American. Breadstuffs quiet and dull. Bacon—Long clear middles 46s 6d; short clear do 50s.

ANTWERP, March 15.—Refined petroleum 39 francs.

H. F. Burgett, night clerk in the Columbus freight office of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis Railroad, was arrested yesterday, charged with stealing $1,000 worth of dry goods from a car. Burgett confessed his guilt and said part of the money realized by the sale was used to make good an embezzlement from the Hocking Valley Railroad, while he was agent of that road.

A dispatch from Syracuse says the Morris Run Coal Company made an assignment yesterday. The liabilities of the company are $800,000. The temporary suspension of the company is caused by its inability to obtain extensions from its creditors.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—TO BUY—A GOOD STOCK of Dry Goods or Notions, for which I desire to pay part cash, and part in prime Iowa Lands

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1875.

It is expected that the vote on the admission of PINCHBACK will be taken in the Senate to-day. The result is "mighty uncertain."

THE warm friendship existing between the *Post* and Fort Pillow FORREST is explained by the fact that both the paper and the butcher are unwaveringly Democratic, and that each stood faithfully by its party in the darkest hours.

OUR Street Commissioners should now bestir themselves without delay. The great body of filthy debris which has accumulated during the long winter will, if long permitted to remain in the streets, courts and back yards of the city, prove a prolific source of fevers and kindred diseases.

SEVERAL papers which ought to be better informed, state that Archbishop MANNING, of England, one of the newly chosen Cardinals, is the first Cardinal who has been appointed in that country since the time of Queen ELIZABETH. They forget Cardinal WISEMAN, who has been dead only a few years.

THE people of New York city are becoming seriously alarmed about their debt, and it must be confessed that they have good grounds for anxiety. The obligations of that Democratic stronghold now foot up over a hundred and fourteen million dollars, with a lively prospect of a steady increase. The expenditures of the city last year amounted to thirty-four million dollars, an amount considerably exceeding the total cost of the entire United States Government thirty years ago. Such a fact as this indicates remarkable progress—in a certain direction.

GEORGIA is the brag Democratic State of the Union. Here is what the Columbus *Enquirer*, of that State, an ultra Bourbon sheet, has to say concerning the outcome of the late session of the Legislature:

> Nearly every county is claiming that *it* had admirable representatives in the Legislature of Georgia at its late session, but that they could do nothing against the incompetent or improvident ones from other counties, and thus the session was profitless and expensive. The fact that the session was a profitless one is not denied, and the only trouble is upon whom to shift the responsibility.
>
> The experience of Georgia in this respect is of a similar character to that of every other Democratic State in the Union. Across the brows of every such Legislature is written "Fraud."

THE people of North Carolina are presently to be called upon to vote upon the question of a State convention, the only excuse for the assembling of which is to be found in the desire of the Democratic leaders of the South to return to the proscriptive constitutional forms which prevailed before the war. The upper crust of the white population there, as elsewhere in the South, are not in the least resigned to the situation. They have not the conviction that the present status of the negro, politically and socially, is an established thing. They evidently believe that as soon as they again have a Democratic President things will be righted exactly according to their notions, and they claim also that the Democrats of the North are with them in sentiment and sympathy. Neither, we suspect, are they very wide of the mark in this conclusion.

THE Democratic papers of Connecticut are hotly denouncing the author of a shrewd swindle lately practiced upon a number of the leading party managers in that State, under the pretext of establishing a German newspaper, to be printed simultaneously in Hartford and New Haven, which should be used exclusively to support the Democratic nominations during the campaign, and so far as possible control the German vote. He completely fooled the foremost men of the party, and succeed in swindling them out of several thousand dollars in the aggregate. Naturally enough, they are greatly chagrined over it—notwithstanding that he did but execute upon them devices closely akin to those with which they are trying to hoodwink others. He cheated them, and they seek to dupe the people. Why should the biter complain when he is bitten?

SOME of the Democratic papers are complaining because Secretary FISH, in settling our difficulty with Spain on account of the Virginius affair, made no monetary charge "for the indignity offered the American flag." So much the more credit for his sense of national honor. He obtained from Spain a formal apology and salute. The latter Government ordered our flag raised over the very spot where the Virginius butchery took place, and there, in the presence of our ships of war, and various foreign consuls, assembled as witnesses, the Spanish forts fired a salute to our flag, and a Spanish representative delivered to our commissioners a formal written apology. We trust this country has not yet degenerated so low as to measure its honor by a monetary standard—though there is no telling how soon it might reach such a depth were it for any considerable length of time to deliver over to the ascendancy of Democratic doctrines and practices.

A NUMBER of interesting facts in regard to our trade with the East Indies have recently been brought out by the pending discussion concerning the Hawaiian treaty. The statistics for last year are not yet published, but in 1873 the British, Spanish and Dutch East Indies, who are competitors in the Hawaiian Islands for the sugar trade of the Pacific coast, sent of their products to this country $56,937,027, and took of our products in manufactures, excepting coin, only $1,500,700, or less than three per cent. The other ninety-seven per cent. goes to them in coin, or exchange to Great Britain, Germany, or Spain, to purchase their manufactures, while our factories lie idle. The Hawaiian Islands, being practically an American colony, took of American manufactures over seventy per cent., and under the treaty would take our products entirely in pay. This state of facts in regard to our trade is attracting attention and explains in part the drain of gold from the country and the lack of market for American manufactures. It is argued that had the $55,000,000 been paid in American cottons and hardware, we should be nearer specie payments and more labor would be furnished our people.

IT IS evident that BISMARCK does not relish the language of the Pope in the latter's encyclical. He wants Italy to say whether she will continue to exempt him from the operations of law, and allow him from his retreat in the Vatican to foment rebellion in Germany, by such counsels as are contained in the document in question. It is difficult to foretell the result of the contest between the Empire and Vatican. The assumption on the part of the Church to exercise a certain control over secular matters received a new impetus by, and is a natural consequence of, the lately established doctrine of the infallibility of the Pope. All encroachments of this kind are sternly resisted by BISMARCK; and that, in such resistance, he has the sympathy of many Catholics, is abundantly proved by the proceedings of the late German Parliament. Whether, judging from a political standpoint, the policy adopted by BISMARCK is a wise one, or whether the manner of resistance is politic, and whether it would not be best to let the churches, as they do in this country, "paddle their own canoes," are problems yet to be solved. It is a radical mistake, however, to suppose that BISMARCK is engaged in an agressive warfare against the Catholic hierarchy. That Church enjoys in every portion of Germany equal rights and privileges with the Protestant denominations, and is, like the latter, under the protection of the Government. BISMARCK only disputes the right of the Vatican to interiere, though indirectly, in the government of the State.

IN ACCORDANCE with the notice given by him within twenty-four hours after he took his seat in the English House of Commons, Dr. KENEALEY will to-day bring up the TICHBORNE case for consideration. Quite a marked reaction, alike as to the counsel and his client seems to have setin, and the former's misfortunes have certainly served to gain sympathy for him, the courts and the lawyers who have disbarred him having been rebuked in their turn by the people, who lately sent him by a large majority to Parliament. It is hardly probable that he will win his case, but he will at least win admiration for his pluck and persistence. There is little question that Dr. KENEALEY is an abler and a better man in all respects than most of his Parliamentary colleagues. As a man, a private citizen, a friend, a husband and a father, not a word can be said against him, which is more than can be said for most of the members of the House of Commons. As a lawyer, too, he is evidently a head and shoulders taller than the Solicitor or Attorney General, or any other legal member of the House. And yet he was disbenched, disbarred and stripped of his silk gown because he would not submit to the intolerance of Chief Justice COCKBURN, whom the English people seem disposed to deify. Time will show whether Dr. KENEALEY'S estimate of the Chief Justice was correct, but until now his enemies have been too strong for him. His return to Parliament by one of the most respectable constituencies in England is a big triumph for him, and if he uses it wisely, may lead to still greater ones. But he has a great deal of up-hill work before him. Whether he prove equal to the demand and the opportunity remains yet to be seen.

"LABOR REFORM" RUN MAD.

In another column we publish a carefully prepared synopsis of a bill now before the Legislature, having for its object, ostensibly, the adjustment of disputes between the coal, iron and steel operators of the State, and the workmen in their employ. The propositions embraced in the bill are too absurd for serious discussion, and, if adopted, would unsettle all the legal and equitable principles which have heretofore governed and protected miners and manufacturers in their right to manage their own affairs, and dispose of their products at such prices and in such quantities as they might deem fit. The bill, evidently the work of some chimerical "labor reformer," provides for the selection of an Industrial Tribunal, consisting of twelve persons, of whom nine are to be workmen in the several branches named, and only two, capitalists—one a coal operator, and the other an iron manufacturer! The Secretary of the Interior is to constitute the twelfth. The organization of the Tribunal—nine upon the labor side, with but two representatives of the manufacturers—is a fair indication of the manner in which disputes are likely to be "adjusted and settled," if the bill passes. Then, the manufacturers are to furnish monthly statements, under oath, of every detail of their business, so that this one-sided Tribunal can estimate how much wages they ought to pay, in case of dispute raised! They are not only to decide this difficult question, but are also to determine whether the operators have oppressed any of their workmen, and to award damages therefor; oppression being held to be, discharging a man without reasonable ground, as, for instance, for refusing to take goods in part payment for his labor. After the Tribunal has fixed the wages, the manufacturer must pay the same. He cannot shut up his mill, or his mine, but must continue in operation, at the rates fixed, at least until the next meeting of the Tribunal! All payment in goods, or orders, or any commodity whatever, is positively prohibited, and the employers are not permitted to offset any claim for wages by showing that the claimant has received goods, or anything else than money.

But this is not all. Coal operators are required to report the amount of coal on hand, or stored by them, and are prohibited from storing more than thirty days' supply, under penalty of having the excess seized and sold where found, to the highest bidder. Should the Tribunal adjudge any miner or manufacturer guilty of a violation of any of the provisions of the bill, the Governor must forthwith order his establishment into the hands of a receiver until the law shall have been fully complied with—or rather, the behests of the Tribunal obeyed. Such are the main features of this most extraordinary measure: and it is no wonder that the press of the State condemns it in the most unqualified terms. We have no idea that it can be passed, certainly not in anything like its present shape. Should it become a law, it would virtually place the taree great industries named at the mercy of those disaffected workmen who are always ready for a strike, and who are never at a loss to make out a case of tyranny or oppression against their employees. Such a law, instead of facilitating the adjustment of disputes between capital and labor, would entail confusion worse confounded, and deal a fatal blow at the manufacturing industries of the entire State.

JOHN MITCHEL, the Irish agitator, admits that he did not move in very respectable society during his residence in this country. Having been reproached by an English newspaper for being a Confederate, he says: "I own the soft impeachment; and so were all the best men I knew in America, Confederates." He should have remained in New York, instead of returning to Ireland. Such men as JEFF. DAVIS' private Secretary, the former keeper of Libby prison, FITZ JOHN PORTER and other notorious traitors and rebels who now fill fat offices under the Democratic government of that city, would doubtless have seen to it that such eminent deserts as his did not go unrewarded.

Ortwein in Heaven.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Some good people are troubled because they think I have presumed to exclude murderers, or at least one murderer, from God's pardoning mercy. They base their opinion on my assertion that I do not want companionship, in heaven, with the last man who went there from an Allegheny county gallows.

Heaven is a place about which we have little information. Christ speaks of it as a Kingdom—a house with many mansions. John describes the capital city of that kingdom; and Milton, whom most orthodox Protestants unconsciously regard as canonical, describes it as a much larger country than China, with a very much higher wall and very diversified scenery. With these hints everyone is left to imagine, or construct, his own heaven, and perhaps no two persons have the same idea. To me the physical world is a type of the spiritual, and I cannot imagine a world, or kingdom, or city in which every inhabitant is in familiar personal intercourse with every other one. I cannot conceive of a heaven like an Illinois prairie, and all the people in it like a bushel of white beans, without distinctive marks. I do not believe in any dead level system of society, such as is proposed by communes and trades unions; have an instinctive aversion to social rolling pins; never would get under one, here; never had any desire to have larger folks crushed down to my level, and will not submit to being rolled into the size of smaller folks.

For aught I know, Ortwein's soul may outrank mine in the upper kingdom: his place may be nearer the throne: he may live in the west end of Jerusalem, and I on a back street, away east of him, and still I not want to know him, even though one of the many appointments I have made for that country, is to meet a murderer who died on the gallows, with a mere glimmer of a hope, that God, for Christ's sake, had pardoned him.

The soul will not lay aside its specialties with its fleshly garments. Grace, in this world, does not annul individual character, and glory is only a consummation of the work of grace. If, here, God supplies the special needs of that infinite variety of beings he has created, what reason have we to suppose that, there, he will give the same portion to all? The good that each has failed to find here, will be secured there, and what I most expect is the right of private judgment—freedom to worship God. This was the dream of the Reformation, that hitherto unattainable good for which martyrs have died, and still continue to die until Death is swallowed up in victory.

In heaven I expect to be delivered from the agonizing solicitude of those conservatives who think they have divine warrant to keep me in the old groove, and the thousand and one radicals who, each, have amission for pointing out a particularoad on which I must travel, or fail to reach the goal. I think that in heaven each one will be free to choose his own work and companions, and there are not likely to be many whose happiness would be increased or diminished by my companionship. I expect a very quiet corner and Mr. Ortwein's friends may overestimate his humility in supposing he would be willing to join my little circle. There will be room for us all, and no friction, even though there will be millions who will not care to see me and whom I shall not care to see: but, the doctrine at the root of this trouble—Faith and Works—is one demanding constant and careful attention.

Luther's mission was to turn people away from all trust in works and to substitute Faith, alone, as the ground of salvation, and he was only one of a continuous line of controversialists on this subject. The original disputants in the Christian dispensation, seem to have been Paul and James, and when such men disagreed it is not likely that the world will soon come to a perfect understanding.

Faith is a something about which no outside party can judge by any but the James test—works. One may prove to another his faith by his works, but in no other way, and the ablest writers on the subject hold it as one on which a man is most likely to deceive himself. The soul can only judge itself by its fruits, and how shall another judge without seeing them? "By their fruits ye shall know them?" By what fruits? Words? These are a small part of the fruit borne by a contrite spirit, striving to grow into the likeness of God, and we have no more warrant for judging that a man repents because he says so, then for assuming that his testimony, in his own behalf, is admissible on all other subjects. He may be very sincere and think he is sorry for sin, when it is only the discovery which troubles him, and when he is known to have persisted in a falsehood long after his professions of repentance, those professions may well be taken at a discount.

When a man says he has faith and cheats his neighbor in a bargain; when he is careful about his creed and lax about his conduct, we have a right to question his "evidences;" when he proves his faith by his receipts for pew rent, prayers and pious exhortations, and neglects the duty he owes to his neighbor and his family; when he tries to please God by studying his spiritual laws, and has no regard to physical enactments, we should take his professions with an allowance. Substituting one kind of what we call "religious observances," for another is not, necessarily advancing in the divine life, and Protestant prayers may be no more acceptable to God than Popish penances. What men should require of one another is "the deeds of the law." By these, alone, have we a right to judge each other, and everything which tends to substitute a state of mind, real or pretended, for obedience to the law, is dangerous to the well being of society. It is not well people should come to believe that a few prayers and a little pious sniffle is better evidence of acompanie with God than an honest, earnest life, a life of resistance to temptation and faithful attempt to learn and do daily, humble duties.

It is not well that a man who spends his days digging ditches to earn an honest living for himself, and those who may depend on him, should be accounted a sinner under God's wrath and curse, a brand ready for the burning, while he who massacres a family for money is held up as a saint mete for glory, because he has prayed and talked nice. No wonder common honesty is steadily on the decline when the religious element of the nation is enlisted in depreciating its value. No wonder our social, political and religious life is so largely made up of shams, when our churches maintain false standards and substitute a thing so intangible as faith, for the rule which requirteen us to "do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God."

No wonder our public servants steal when they think they can square accounts by believing and holding on to their illgotten gain. We have no such surplus of morality that we can afford to have it depreciated in value, and it is quite time we had a gospel of works. In an orthodox church one seldom hears of Christ except as "a propitiation for sin," as one who has "fulfilled the law, in our room and stead," and people get an idea that all that is left for them to do, is to support the church and believe: but was not Christ an example as well as a sacrifice? It is time we had that when he gave us a special description of the judgment, and the grounds on which we shall be judged, he did not say a word about faith. It was all works, and these works were not singing, praying and listening to sermons.

Our Protestantism has unduly depreciated morality and unduly exalted what we call religion, and we are reaping the bitter fruit of our mistake, in corruption everywhere hiding itself under the cloak of piety, or openly scornful of a religion which levels the distinction between virtue and vice, or rather gives vice the best of it, by adjudging a Theodore Parker to eternal woe, and an Ortwein to everlasting bliss.

JANE GREY SWISSHELM.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

> Welcub, welcub, birthful Sprig,
> Happy birds are dow od wig,
> Flitting about frob tree to tree
> Filling the air with belody.

The shoe business is looking up. Shoe leather, chemically considered, is oxhide of beef.

Twenty-four newspapers came into existence, last week, and sixteen ceased to live.

There is a balmy hint of May-day wandering about among the moist March hours.

Blobbs insists that bills for light are not light bills. And yet we have opposition gas companies.

A separate prison for women, with a reformatory for girls, has been established at Indianapolis.

Several crevasses have already opened in the Mississippi levees, and a disastrous flood seems imminent.

Disease resembling the epizootic, but more virulent in form, is prevailing in a number of the Western States.

The Dominion Parliament proposes to organize the Northwest Territory outside of Manitoba into a government.

"Less study and more fun" is Robert Collyer's correct and comprehensive view on the education of young children.

A Boston journalist is writing a comic opera, to be called "Sir Marmaduke." There is no scandal in it, however.

Brigham Young says he is impressed with the idea that contempt of court and divorce suits are not prophetable business.

The spring is upon us, and the ladies are doing a slushing business on the sidewalks and a slashing one in the dry goods stores.

The once celebrated Poorman mine, near Silver City, Idaho, which has been lying idle for several years, is about to be again worked.

Whenever the *Post* is perplexed in argument, it gets out in the same manner in which insolvent debtors get out of jail—swears out.

The "Sacred College of Cardinals" now contains, three English speaking members, a thing unprecedented since the time of Henry VIII.

Spring signs. Wild water fowl, who are supposed to know a thing or two about the weather, are winging their way to the boreal regions.

Now let the Western farmers go to work with a will, as if they had never seen a grasshopper or a chinch bug. It is time to stop complaining.

The wife of ex-Senator Stockton, of New Jersey, has just translated a five-act French comedy, entitled "Fairy Fingers," which is to be performed soon.

The starch factories of New England, which are very numerous, have made so good a market for potatoes that in many places they are the staple crop.

The first American steamer that ever made a voyage on the Nile recently started for the first cataract. It is a small yacht owned by some American tourists.

That "National Independent Mass Convention" held in Cleveland the other day, was actually attended by fifty-five delegates. What an august assemblage!

A Bridgeport, Conn., company has just finished a refrigerator car to be used in bringing strawberries from the South. It is the first car of the kind ever built.

The New York city postoffice is selling over $1,000 worth of newspaper stamps alone, a day. The postmaster says this is a sure barometer of revival in business.

The heroism displayed by Massachusetts legislators, who recommend a reduction of their own salaries, would make them, in military service, volunteers for a forlorn hope.

The programme for the third annual exhibition of the Chicago Exposition is announced. It will be opened on the 8th of September next, and closed on the 9th of October.

The members of the Boston typographical union have set a good example by adopting arbitration as a means of settling disputes between themselves and their employers.

By the way, are not the men who are openly defying the authorities in getting up Black Hills expeditions in various parts of the country, proper subjects for legal treatment, just now?

An Amazon, who is described as "a woman with jaws of iron and teeth of steel," is performing in a San Francisco theater. Some women off the stage, also, have the "iron jaw" fully developed.

A big borrasco. It was stated the other day in the British Parliament, that the debt owing by bankrupt foreign States amounts to no less than £240,000,000, of which almost all is held in England.

Having accomplished the cardinalate, the New York *Herald* will probably now insist upon the removal hither of the residence of the Pope, as a proper concession to the growth of Romanism in this Union.

Up in Connecticut, the other day, an excited workman caught up a pail of water to extinguish a fire in a factory, but, perceiving that the water was hot, he emptied it, filled the pail with cold water and put out the fire.

On the first of thismonth there were four hundred and six distilleries in operation, with a daily capacity of 295,817 gallons, showing an increase of fifty distilleries, with a daily capacity of 95,038 gallons, over the February returns.

The Louisville *Commercial* says: "While Mark Twain is giving his Bucking Mule Lecture for charity in Hartford, Conn., the sheriff is selling his house lots in Omaha for taxes." Altogether wrong. It is George Francis Train's lots that are being sold.

"When doctors disagree," etc. An eminent English preacher recently, in a public address, gave "a most eloquent vindication of the stage," stating "that he had as little hesitation in asking the blessing of God on a good comedy as on a good novel or a good dinner."

General Shaler, of New York, who went to Chicago some months ago to take charge of the fire department of that city, appears to have grown tired of the job. At least the New York *World* of Sunday says he "has reported back for duty as Commander of the first division of the National Guard."

A QUEER BATTLE.

A Pennsylvania Farmer Whipped by Rats.

The Carlisle *Herald* says: Mr. Jesse Laverty, of East Pennsboro', living near Booser's Mill, was lately very much annoyed by rats, which carried off his eggs and made sad work with his corn in the crib and then invaded his granary and commenced destroying a bin of wheat. Mr. L., on examination, found there was but one place where the rats got in. He thereupon resolved to kill the rats by an artifice well worthy of the cause. He strewed corn meal liberally on the floor of the granary, and about one hour later he nailed the hole shut, he then called his dog (a Spanish terrier) and armed with a club went forth to battle.

Now the door to the granary is fastened by a long wooden latch extending full across the door, and can only be opened from the outside, and Mr. L., on entering the granary, drew the door shut and heard the latch fall. He then thought that the enemy was his, but this was an error, for the rats were more numerous than he expected, and finding no way of escape, attacked both Mr. L. and his dog with great fury. Mr. L. laid on his blows hard and fast, and one blow, aimed at a rat, unfortunately hit the dog on the head and killed him.

Mr. L. being thus deprived of his faithful ally, would have fled but could not. He then commenced calling for help, the rats meanwhile kept skirmishing around his legs, run up his body, but his hands and one bolder than the rest bit his nose. It is impossible to say what the result of this unequal contest would have been, had not a passing neighbor, attracted by the noise and cries, went to the relief of Mr. L., who presented a shocking spectacle, his face and hands bloody, and his clothes torn into shreds.

Mr. L. being washed and rehabilitated, sat down to reflect, when he luckily hit on a better plan of warfare. He went and borrowed twelve cats, which with his own made fifteen: these he in the evening shut up in his granary with the rats, and the next morning he found, on examination, ten dead cats, one blind one, and two with one eye apiece. The remaining two were unhurt, and by actual count he found one hundred and nineteen dead rats; of the dead dog there was nothing left but the bones and hair, the rats doubtless having eaten him while Mr. L. was hunting cats.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Skeleton, of Parsons, Kansas, has run away from home, and her husband, who is a parson, is rattling his dry bones around trying to get her back.

Of an Auraucanian cacique who lately died, a Peruvian paper says: "Quillapan lived and died like a savage, but he had the intelligence of a grand soul." Specification—"He was never known to go back on his word."

The block of granite for the monument to Prof. Agassiz in Mount Auburn cemetery, which was taken from a spot near the lower glacier of the Aar in Switzerland, has arrived at Cambridge, and will be placed in position soon after the opening of spring.

Last Sunday Lawyer Shearman called on Beecher to talk over some points in the case. The latter declined to have anything to do with the matter. It was Sunday, he said, and he wanted to rest. The lawyer reminded him that the matter was important, and that he must attend to it. He also told him of the "ox and the ass" that was drawn out of the pit on the Sabbath day, to which the Pastor of Plymouth Church, shrugging up his shoulders, replied, "Shearman, look at me. Did you ever know a bigger ass fall into a deeper pit?"

Jurors, counsel, and others engaged in the Brooklyn scandal case, daily receive postal cards and other communications, by mail, from all parts of the country, on topics incident to the trial. A correspondent in Florida, learning that Mr. Jeffrey, one of the jurors, was suffering from illness, from an intemperate use of tobacco, writes as follows: "Use gentian root and stick. Swallow the saliva, it is a nervine and a good antidote of tobacco. To smokers —Use fine in a pipe. A man will grow fat on gentian, and become lean on the poison of tobacco. I used tobacco twenty-six years and quit."

It seems that Rufus Hatch, who went to Washington on business connected with the Pacific Mail, without any premeditation found a bonanza. Mr. Hatch is a widower, with three children. Accidentally, he met Miss Josephine Chesney, a beautiful and brilliant woman whose father, a Presbyterian clergyman, died at the commencement of the war. Miss Chesney, then an orphan, studied for the stage; but her beauty was of too refined a character to be admired at the footlights, and she was too young and inexperienced to be successful. Since that time she has been teaching at a Kindergarten school, and giving private lessons in music and the languages.

Many good things are said in the busy last moments of Congress that pass unnoticed. A bit of keen sarcasm fell from the lips of a very amiable gentleman a night or two before the session closed, long after the galleries were empty. The whisky tax was under discussion, and Sherman, of Ohio, speaking against it. Now, when Sherman gets angry he stammers a bow-legged and stammers, and as he was both, just at that time, his speech was a great jumble. Morrill, of Vermont, "the very maiden" of the Senate, from the other world, with a soft, gentle voice, took up the discussion as Sherman stopped, and said he was very sorry to hear his friend from Ohio was in such ill humor, and could believe his convictions were against it; he could not help thinking the gentleman had "set his tongue going and gone off and left it."

"Perley" tells this, for the Boston *Journal*: Prominent among the distinguished strangers who have honored Washington during the past session with their presence was Professor Price, or, as he preferred to be called, "Professor Bonamy Price, of Hoxford." He was a fussy, egotistical fellow, and those to whom he brought letters of introduction from Sir Stafford Northcote, (who was here on the High Joint Commission), were soon very tired of him. One day, after his disagreable qualities had become generally known, he came as a guest at a dinner party, with some of the highest officials, and, as usual with him, he was determined to lead and monopolize the conversation. After a while he said, or rather shouted: "Now all you listen. I want everyone to give me his or her views of Heaven!" and he proceeded in a loud tone to ask first one question and then another. The answers were various, but brief, and finally it came to the turn of the host, last of all, who thus answerd: 'Well, I hope that Heaven is a place where people can live without money and *without Price*.'" There was a general roar of laughter, but the Briton did not see the point of the reply, and said: "Oh, Oh! You regard Heaven as a free dining-hall. 'Pon my word I don't see what there is amusing in that." There was a general feeling of relief here when the Professor returned to teach political economy to the students at "Hoxford."

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The furnaces at Robesonia, Berks county, Pa., are again in blast.

The rolling mill at West Middlesex, Mercer county, Pa., is idle.

The lumbermen of Carbon county, Pa., are preparing for a brisk trade the coming spring.

It is rumored that the Reading and Lehigh Railroad has been leased by the Philadelphia and Reading.

The woolhat factories of Reading will suspend operations on April 17, in order to get rid of the large stock of goods on hand.

The strike among the coal miners along the Pan Handle Railroad in Ohio is at an end, and the old miners have agreed to go to work at three cents per bushel.

Work has been resumed at the Pitt & Merritt mines in Morris county, N. J. The prospect now is that the mines will be driven to their fullest extent for a year to come.

The Paterson, N. J., workingmen are becoming discouraged with the business prospects in that city, and a large number have left or are preparing to leave for California.

The Bedford, Pa., *Inquirer* says. "The Hopewell furnace has on hand 1,150 tons of charcoal pig iron. They are making arrangements to resume operations at an early day.

Tuscarawas is the third iron producing county in Ohio. She is out-ranked only by Lawrence and Jackson counties. The iron fields of Tuscarawas extend well down into Guernsey.

A new boiler shop has been erected at Sharon, Pa., where the old one was burned three weeks ago. The shop is quite an improvement, being larger and more convenient than the old one.

The first shipment of iron from the furnace of Peter Uhler, South Easton, Pa., which was recently blown in, was made on Wednesday, when 100 tons were shipped to the Delaware rolling mill.

The Central Shaft coal mines, near Cambridge, Ohio, are in the hands of the Sheriff. The engine, cars and machinery have been attached by different parties, to secure debts, and will be sold.

Business at a majority of the Lowell, Mass., mills is reported to be excellent, many of them being scarcely a bale ahead of their orders, though their storehouses were filled to overflowing six weeks ago.

The Bangor Slate Company, which has been furnishing employment to only about half of its usual number of workmen, is about to start up anew and will employ a full force again in a short time.—*Reading Argus.*

A general strike of the journeymen in the boot and shoe trade in the East, it is said, will be ordered, in consequence of the intention of the manufacturers to lower their salaries. The manufacturers say they can get all the non-society men they want.

The hollow-ware foundry of Shantz & Keeley, in Spring City, Chester county, Pa., has resumed operations, men having been procured in Baltimore to take the place of the strikers. Policemen are employed to prevent the strikers interfering with the new hands.

A mass meeting of the painters of New York city was held on Friday evening, to protest against the proposed reduction of wages and a return to the ten hour rule. Several speeches were made, and a series of resolutions adopted deprecating the proposed changes.

The Clearfield, Pa., *Raftsman's Journal* says: The amount of square timber, to be run to market from this region, will not much exceed one-half the usual supply, judging from the information we have on the subject. A limited supply will undoubtedly insure better prices than could be obtained were the quantity greater.

The Clarion *Democrat* of the 12th inst. says: The Pittsburgh Mining and Coal Company of Catfish has secured a renewal of their contract to furnish coal for the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada for a year. There is some trouble in procuring cars yet, but the works are now running between four and five days each week, and expect to make full time shortly.

The entire property (real estate and personal), machinery and fixtures of the Philipsburg Manufacturing Company, Warren county, Pa., was sold last week at public sale. Daniel Runkle, Esq., was the purchaser at $20,000. It is understood that arrangements will be made for carrying on business at this establishment on a more extensive scale than ever before.

The heaviest casting ever made in Norristown is now being constructed at the Norris Iron Works It is to be used for a pair of heavy shears for shearing iron, and weighs fourteen tons. It is being made for a mill below Manayunk. A mammoth cylinder, ninety six inches in diameter, with a seven-foot stroke, is also being made at the same works. This is to be used for a large blowing engine for the Warwick Iron Company of Pottstown.

The Uniontown, Pa., *Genius of Liberty* says: We would not be surprised to see another furnace at Dunbar in the course of a year or two or perhaps less time. An intelligent gentleman, who has charge of a large furnace in the central part of the State, was here last week and examined the coal and ore banks, and said there was no place in the United States that could compete with this region in the cheap manufacture of iron. Several men connected with iron works have been visiting the mines in this vicinity lately.

A meeting of the employees of Campbell & Elliott's cotton mill, Trenton, N. J., who are now on a strike, was held on Saturday afternoon. There are four hundred and ninety-eight looms in the mill, and three hundred hands employed. There was a reduction of seven per cent. some weeks ago; the average wages are now from three to four dollars per week, and they have been working on half time about sixteen months. The strikers resolved to stand firm until they received an advance of fifteen per cent.

A mass meeting of operatives was held at Fall River, Mass., on Friday night, and the treasurer reported that $2,200 had been added to the weavers' fund since Wednesday, and further contributions are promised. The feeling was in favor of ending the troubles, and a resolution was adopted that the operatives would all return at once to work if the manufacturers would, on the 1st of April, pay the 25 cents per cwt. now asked. It is thought that this arrangement may be made. The Merchants' Mill is increasing the number of operatives and upwards of 600 looms are running.

The owner of an extensive brewery in Newark, N. J., states that nearly all the brewers in that city are bankrupt. He says there is so much legislation on the liquor question that the brewers never know what their status will be six months hence, and consequently cannot regulate their business. The change in the rate of taxation of tobacco, cigars, and whisky which took place on the third of March, begot the necessity of calling in all the old stamps heretofore used. Instead of five dollars per thousand, as heretotore, cigars will now be taxed six dollars, that being the price of stamps.

The Dickson Manufacturing Company, to which belonged the Cliff Locomotive Works at Scranton, recently destroyed by fire, has resolved to rebuild the works at once. It is intended that a portion of the old machinery shall be fully equipped for operations by the first of July next. This will be good news to the employees who were thrown out of work by the recent burning of the shops. The company has also caused the Dickson Works, which have been running on the eight hour system, to be supplied with a full complement of hands, to work ten hours a day.

Reports from Canton, Mass., state: "The woolen mill of Draper & Sumner is not running. Robert Draper's woolen mill runs on full time, and so do Frank Reed's knife and Morse's Rising Sun Stove Polish factories. All the mills, with the exception of Draper & Sumner's woolen mill, are in operation, with orders ahead, and a full complement of operatives. The woolen mill of French & Ward, in Sough, on runs on full time. The Revere Copper Co. run their mills over time to fill their orders. The Neponset cotton factory is on full time; also the shovel works at Bolivar. The silk mills of Sumner Bros., of Bonnaz and Shepard's and Mansfield's twine factories run on full time, and the Narragansett rubber mill four days in the week.

The Multiplication of Diseases.

Diseases multiply. One begets another. A trifling indisposition may, therefore, originate a complication of dangerous maladies. Indigestion begets far more formidable diseases; a multitude of ailments are traceable to constipation: fever and ague unhinges the entire nervous system, and is therefore the source of the protean ailments which affect that portion of the human organism. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, however, is a remedy ever resorted to at the inception of those disorders of the stomach, bowels or liver, which give birth to the majority of diseases and disorders that awaken when they have ripened into formidable maturity, and like powerful auxiliaries in the process of recovery is, of course, longer when the malady has gained headway, but it is none the less certain. Dyspepsia, constipation, biliousness, kidney complaints and intermittent fever, invariably yield to the operation of the great alterative and invigorant.

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ROBERT ARTHURS, President. GEO. F. HUFF, of Greensburg, Vice Pres. L. HALSEY WILLIAMS, Cashier.

CENTRAL BANK, No. 47 BANK BLOCK, Pittsburgh. CAPITAL.....$100,000.

Bank of Discount and Deposit. Stockholders Individually Liable. INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME DEPOSITS. Collections made on all the principal cities of the United States and Canadas.

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The Tradesmen's National Bank HAS REMOVED TO ITS New Banking Rooms, Cor. Wood St. and Fourth Ave., Where its Officers will be pleased to see all its old customers and such new ones as may favor it with their patronage.

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HART, CAUGHEY & CO. BANKERS AND BROKERS, CORNER FOURTH AVE. AND WOOD STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA., (Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,) Dealers in Exchange, Coin, Coupons, &c. Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT BONDS. SIGHT DRAFTS ON LONDON. B. E. JAMISON, W. M. STEWART, J. H. KERSHOW. ESTABLISHED 1855.

B. K. Jamison & Co., BANKERS, N. W. Cor. Third and Chestnut Sts., Phila. Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other investment Securities. Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates. Deposits of Banks and Bankers received, subject to check at sight. Interest allowed according to agreement.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, March 15, 1875.

Immemorial custom is about as hard to change as the common law, and to this may be attributed many of those antique practices, existent in the rural districts, which are at once the amusement and derision of those who fancy themselves, however fallaciously, "financiers" of this modern day and generation. In Pittsburgh the bankers, with characteristic modesty, think that they are thoroughly metropolitan in their style of doing business, having introduced all the recent improvements, never paying anything to anyone for which a check or a time obligation will answer, and, in a word, using to its fullest extent, that

"Blest paper credit, last and best supply To give corruption lighter wings to fly."

Hence, as the first of April approaches and the bankers of the neighboring country towns begin to notify their correspondents that they will need larger amounts of currency than usual in order to make the customary annual settlements of their rural depositors, a sardonic smile settles on the faces of presidents and directors in bank parlors, and while they grant the desired accommodations with more than the usual grace, owing to the the comparative ease of our money market, their expressions denote the unmistakable opinion that "we do these things much better in France."

We may as well accept the situation with a grood grace. Farmers, from the remotest times, have been accustomed to make their payments in currency, and farming is their business, Messieurs bankers, not financiering. These moneys will flow back almost immediately and the lenders will have the pleasure, doubtless, of lending the same money to two different sets of individuals, which is the very acme of successful banking. If it pleases the farmers to make their payments in cash, why, so mote it be. Do not strive to change the inevitable.

—The following letter was mislaid or we should have answered it sooner. The question is one of some interest to bankers:

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 12, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

We would be pleased to have you state in the financial column of your paper for our information, and perhaps others, whether notes and time drafts drawn or accepted prior to the passage of the act of February 8th and payable at bank, are subject to stamp tax or not.

Very respectfully yours, J.

In reply, we would state that on the 4th instant, Mr. F. D. Tappen, the President of the Gallatin National bank of New York, made inquiry of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, as follows:

First—Are notes, drafts and acceptances, when made payable at a bank, subject to a stamp tax of two cents, and if so does the tax apply to notes, drafts and acceptances drawn or accepted prior to February 8, 1875, and which have matured and since been paid?

Second—Does the tax apply to checks drawn by a bank upon itself, for the purpose of paying its own dividends and the dividends, coupons or interest of other corporations?

Third—Are checks drawn by a bank, county or city government on a bank, subject to this tax?

As the letter of the Commissioner is of importance to the banking and mercantile community, answering, as it does, the letter of our Karns' City correspondent and other kindred matters, we give the reply in full:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WASHINGTON, March 10, 1875.

F. D. Tappen, Esq., President Gallatin National Bank, New York:

SIR—In your letter of the 4th instant you inquire as to the proper stamp to express the word "voucher" in section 15 of the "Act to amend existing customs and internal Revenue laws, &c," approved February 8, 1875.

You ask the following questions (given above):

Section 15, of said act of February 8, 1875, provides: That a bank check, draft, order or voucher for the payment of any sum, or money whatsoever, drawn upon any bank, banker or trust company, shall be subject to to a stamp tax of two cents.

It is understood that this enactment was made mainly to prevent evasion of the stamp tax on checks, by the substitution of receipts, orders "payable one day after date," and other instruments of like character, for orders, and etc., drawn on time, as well as those payable at sight or on demand; so also of drafts, whether at sight or on demand; so also of notes, and all other vouchers substituted for checks, &c., as commonly used according to the custom of banks.

Section 6 of the act of March 3, 1875, exempts from the tax "the receipts of the receipt book of a savings bank or institution for deposits having no capital stock, and doing no other business than receiving deposits to be loaned or invested for the sole benefit of the parties making such deposits, without profit or compensation to the association or company when money is paid to a depositor on his pass book."

This provision leaves the tax upon all receipts (with the above exception) given to the banks as vouchers for the payment of money on deposit as imposed by section 15 of the said act of February 8, whether such receipts are loose or contained in a book.

I reply to your specific questions:

First—That if there is any understanding between the bank and the maker of the note, or acceptor of the checks, drafts or orders payable at bank, that such notes and acceptances shall be paid by the bank and charged in the account of the makers, drawer or acceptor, in the same manner as ordinary checks would be, such notes and acceptances are considered liable to the two-cent stamp tax as vouchers" for the payment of money by the bank. *This applies to* notes, drafts, &c., made, drawn or accepted prior to February 8, 1875, when paid by the bank on and after that date.

Second—This tax applies to checks drawn by a bank upon itself for the purpose of paying its own dividends, coupons or interest of other corporations, or for other payments.

Third—Checks drawn by state, county or city officers in their official capacity upon public bonds deposited in a bank are exempt, if said bonds are kept separate from any private accounts, if not being within the intent of the law to tax a public treasury.

I will add with reference to some other questions frequently proposed to this office: That orders for dividends are subject to the tax if drawn for a definite and certain sum, but not otherwise.

An ordinary certificate of deposit used in the ordinary manner is not liable.

Interest coupons are considered exempt. Bills of exchange, foreign as well as inland, when drawn upon a bank, banker or trust company, are held to be subject to the tax, whether payable at sight or otherwise.

Duplicate or all bills, orders, &c., are liable the same as originals. Receipts not relating to banking business, for instance, for rents, are exempt.

Very respectfully, J. W. DOUGLASS, Commissioner.

OFFICE OF TRADE & STONE, BANKERS & BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET, NEW YORK, March 13, 1875.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

We have nothing of particular note to report in regard to our market. The temper of outside operators has been bullish, of which condition Mr. Gould is said to have taken advantage and has been unloading as many of his stocks as circumstances would permit without having the effect of his sales made noticeable. We notice a disposition on the part of holders of stocks to take advantage of the recent rise in prices, and we shall not be surprised if the effect of this is seen in a lower market next week. The bank statement shows a loss in reserve of $3,390,000, and the banks now hold only $2,530,000 above the required amount of reserve. This had no effect on the money market, rates being nominally 2@4 per cent. We are informed that the Rothschilds requested the Secretary of the Treasury to call coupon instead of registered bonds, as he had first determined upon, and this will have no effect on the gold market, as the rich holders prefer the new 5's and they will be made without any disturbance. Gold has been firmer, selling up to 115⅝.

Yours truly, TRADE & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

March 15, 1875.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Money						
Gold	115⅛	115⅛	115⅛	115⅛	115⅛	116
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	120½		120⅝		120⅝	
5-20's, 1865	117		117		117	
5-20's, 1867	117½		117½		117½	
5-20's, 1868	118		118		118	
5-20's, 1865, new	118½		118⅝		118⅝	
5-20's, 1867, "	119½		119½		119½	
5-20's, 1868, "	119½		119½		119½	
10-40's	114		114		114	
10-40's, coupons	114½		114½		114½	
Currency 6's	122		122		122	
New 5 per cents	114		114		114	
Western Union bds	76½	77⅛	77⅛	77⅝	77⅝	77⅝
Quicksilver	33		33		33	
Pacific Mail	38⅝	39	38⅝	38⅝	38⅝	38⅝
Western Union	93					
Adams Express	104		105			
Wells-Fargo Ex	86		86			
American Express	63		63½			
United States Ex	90		90			
New York Central			102½	102	102	
Erie	57		57		57	57
Michigan Central						
Michigan Southern	75		75		75	
Illinois Central	97½		97½		97½	
Cleveland and Pitts	91⅝		92		92	
Chicago & Rock I	45⅝	45⅝	45⅝	45⅝	45⅝	45⅝
Do preferred	58		58			
North Western	35½		35½	35½	35½	35½
St. Paul, common	35	35⅛	35⅛	35⅛	35⅛	35⅛
Do preferred					64	
Wabash, common	13⅛	14	14⅛	13⅝	13⅝	13⅝
Fort Wayne	93					
Ohio and Mississippi	31		31		31	
Union Pacific	49		49		49	
Hannibal & St. Joe	24⅜	24	24⅛	23⅞	24	24
Iron Mountain						
C., C. & I. C.	5		5			
Tennessee, 6's, old					64	
Tennessee, new			64		65	
South Carolina, 6's			65		65	
South Carolinas, July			31		31	
Missouri 6's			97		97	

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, March 15, 1875.

The condition of trade to-day was tolerably active, with no marked change in the way of prices or volume of trade. Butter, eggs and potatoes were in good demand. Otherwise prices were generally unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail and river since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,615	Apples, bbls	387
Corn, sks	1,120	Wheat, sks	571
Barley, sks	371	Rye, sks	35
Hay, tons	1,760	Butter, pkgs	54
Bacon, pcs	2,223	Bacon, lcs	71
Potatoes, bus	1,100	Hay, bales	1,120

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

GRAIN—The market remains rather quiet, and steady. Wheat was inactive, but holders stood firm, and a strong feeling exists here as at the seaboard and Western points. We quote choice Kentucky white, wheat at $1 20@1 30 ₰ bush; choice Ohio white $1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois do $1 20@1 25; amber do $1 20@1 30 ₰ bush; Indiana and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 15@1 17. Corn was steady but not very active. We quote shelled at 71@72c for high mixed; 71@72c for yellow; 71@72c for low-mixed; ear was in good demand at 70@72c per bushel for yellow; 70@72c for mixed. Oats were steady, and fairly active at 65@66c per bushel for prime white; mixed 62@64c. Barley was quiet, and but little doing. We quote nominally at $1 28@1 33 per bushel for No. 2 spring. Rye was scarce and firm, with sales reported at $1 06@1 12 per bushel. Jobbing quotations in corn and oats rule 3c per bushel above quotations. The yield of grain, compiling the stocks in granary at the principal points of accumulation, and also in transit by rail, as follows on the dates named:

Dec. 1st—The market continues firm and active for standard brands. The following are the wholesale prices of the leading millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 20 ₰ bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50; red wheat do $6 00; all the finer grades of flour bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are as follows: Choice brands of the Winter wheat flour $6 00@6 25; Wisconsin $5 25@5 50; Minnesota $5 75@6 00; red winter wheat flour $5 50@5 75; Graham flour $5 00@5 00; buckwheat flour $5 00@6 25; self-rising flour, in 6 ₰ packages, $3 25 ₰ dozen packages; cornmeal $3 50; oatmeal $7 25 ₰ bbl.

HAY—The market is active and, steady. We quote prime timothy at $19 50@20 00; mixed $22 00@23 00 ₰ ton; No. 2 do $18 00@19 00; inferior $15 00@17 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $23 00@26 00 ₰ ton; loose hay at $26 00@27 00 for No. 1; $23 00@24 00 for No. 2; straw is quoted at $16 00@19 00 ₰ ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is steady at $1 20@1 25 ₰ cwt; shorts $1 25@1 35 ₰ cwt; middlings $1 45@1 55 ₰ cwt; chopped feed $1 55@1 65 ₰ cwt; oatmeal $4 90@2 00 ₰ cwt.

Country Produce

APPLES—The market is easy and declining, with a lower range of prices. We quote choice at $2 75@3 00 per bbl; prime $2 00@2 50; common to medium, dull at $1 25@1 75.

APPLE BUTTER—In small lots, in demand and are easy. We quote at 50@55c ₰ gallon, in kegs. In primes, 45@50c; common, 40@45c.

BEANS—There is a firm market with a limited supply and active demand. We quote prime navy at $2 00@2 10 ₰ bush; mixed do $1 90@2 00; fair to good $1 70@1 80.

BUTTER—There continues to be a sharply declining market under the influence of heavy receipts, a light demand, and the warmer weather. We quote choice yellow roll as would bring 25@27c, and a few sales were made at that figure. The bulk of transactions, however, were at a range of 20@22c for prime; 15@18c for common to medium. Receipts for the week were 1,120 packages.

BEESWAX—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 31@32c ₰ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 34@36c ₰ lb.

CHEESE—The market continues very quiet with business confined chiefly to jobbing transactions. Prices are steady: 16½@17c ₰ lb for Ohio factory; New York factory 17@18c; Western reserve 16@16½c.

EGGS—Market weak and declining. We quote strictly fresh at 20@22c per doz.

HONEY—The market rules at $4 00@4 50 ₰ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₰ lb 55@60c for round lots; 65@70c in a jobbing way; No. 2, ₰ lb, 30@50c, as to quality.

MAPLE SUGAR—Maple sugar is coming in freely and is sold at 11c per ₰ for choice cakes; medium loose 11@12c; maple syrup in gallon kegs and large prices at 90c per gallon; in kegs at $1 40; in barrels $1 25.

POTATOES—There is still a liberal and increasing supply, and prices are a little lower. Transactions from store are at a range of $1 00@1 12 per bushel for prime peachblows; Peerless, 90@95c; other grades 90@95c. Sales on track were moderately active at 85@90c per bushel for peachblows or Peerless.

POULTRY—There is a limited supply, with a fair demand, and prices are steady. Quotations at 14@15c for chickens; 17@18c for turkeys.

PRESERVED AND DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 7¾@8c ₰ lb; dried black berries are scarce at 11@12c ₰ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 9@10c ₰ lb for choice bulkes. Honey is in large supply at 2½@ 25c ₰ lb for clover in small packages, as to size. Medium pickles are quoted at $9 00 ₰ bbl; $5 00 ₰ half bbl.

SEEDS—Timothy is more active; quotable at $2 90@3 00 ₰ bushel. Timothy seed quiet at $2 90@3 00 from store; $2 80@2 90 in a jobbing way. Flax seed is scarce and no store lots offering; quoted nominally at $1 55@2 00; orchard grass seed is quoted at $1 50@1 60; blue grass do $2 50; red-top do $2 00.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 13@ 15c ₰ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

Groceries.

There was a fair jobbing and order trade with prices generally well maintained. We quote as follows:

Green Coffees.	₰ lb.	*Sugars.*	
Fancy Rio	24½c	Standard A	10½c
Choice Rio	23½c	Standard extra C	10c
Prime Rio	22 c	Standard extra C	10c
Good Rio	20 c	Franklin extra C	9¾c
Ordinary Rio	19 c	American extra C	9½c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	8@9 c
Rio, in papers	27 c	Crushed	11½c
Rio, in bulk	26½c	Powdered	11½c
Java, in papers	41 c	Granulated	11½c
Java, in bulk	40@c	Uncolored	9½c
Teas.		Silver gloss	9½c
Young Hyson	50@$1 00	Corn	10½c
Gunpowder	50@$1 00	*Molasses.*	₰ gal.
Imperial	50@$1 00	Strictly ch'c N O	75c
Japan	50@$1 00	Prime	70c
Oolong	25@ 85	Good	65c
Fancy	1 00	*Syrups.*	
Souchong	25@ 65	Ex. w'hite Syrups	75c
Rice.		Sugar drips	65c
Choice Carolina	8@8½c	Lower grades	45@60c
Patna	7½@8c	*Meats.*	
Rangoon	7½@7½c	Layers, ₰ bx	$2 25
Spices.		Layers, ₰ lb	12 c
Cloves	55 c	Currants, ₰ lb	7½c
Allspice	17½@18½c	Prunes	10@12½c
Cassia	22 c	*Soda.*	
Nutmegs	$1 35@1 40	Bi-carb, in 10-₰ pkgs	6c
Pepper	20@27 c	Bi-carb, in ₰ papers	8c
Candies		*Soaps.*	
Star, full weight	18c	Irish soap ₰ box	$1 50
Star, short	15c	Babbitt's best ₰ box	7 00
Starch. ₰ lb.		Do. N.Y. City ₰ bx	3 25
Common	5½c	German Mottled	7 c

TOBACCO—There is a steady and strong demand. Quotations are as follows:

Spun roll	60@65c	Rough & Ready	65@85c
Black Spun	55@60c	Fine Cut Plugs	70@85c
Black Tens	57@60c	Fine Cut	55@60c
Black Quarters	57@60c	Cut and Dry	55@62c
Louisville Navy	60@65c	Smoking Snuff	55@60c
Louisville Cav	68@70c	Black Snuff	60@65c
Virginia Navy	65@70c	Cigars	$30@$45
Virginia Tens	55@60c	Cigarettes	65c
Virginia Cav	55@60c	Penn's Seed	$13@20
Virginia Fine	70@75c	Connecticut Seed	20@25c
Flounders	65@75c	Seed & Havana	30@35c
Bright Pounds	65@ 85	Havana	60@150

FISH—There is a fair demand at steady prices. We quote as follows:

No. 1 extra mess		Large do ₰ 100	$5 50
mackerel, ₰ bbl	$25 00	Boneless codfish	7½c
No. 1 mess	25 00	₰ lb	
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00	White fish, ₰ half	
Extra No. 1 bay	19 00	bbl	6 50
No. 1 bay	14 00	Lake herring, ₰	
Extra No. 2	12 00	half bbl	4 75
No. 2	11 50	Labrador herring,	
New No. 3	9 50	₰ bbl	5 00
George's codfish,		Scaled herring, ₰	
medium, ₰ 100	6 00	box	25@c
		Bloaters ₰ bx	2 25

Provisions.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 8@8½c ₰ lb; ribsides uncured at 11½@12c; clear do sides 11½@ clear sides, 12c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 12½@13c ₰ lb. Sugar-cured shoulders at 9½@10c ₰ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 13½c; dried beef 14½c; beef tongues, ₰ dozen, $7 50.

MESS PORK—The market is steady. We quote at $20 00@20 50 ₰ bbl.

LARD—Is firm at quotations. We quote primelard, in tierces, ₰ lb, 11¼c; half bbls do, 12c; in buckets 12½c; 3 ₰ pails do, 13c; in 5 ₰ pails do, 12½c; in 8 ₰ do, 12c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 05@1 10 ₰ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c ₰ lb for choice, and 7½@7¾c for medium.

General Merchandise.

ALES—We quote: X $3 00 ₰ barrel; XX $4 00 ₰ barrel; India ale $4 00 ₰ barrel; Bass' Engish ale, in bottles, in 12 gallon cases, $24 00@ 25 00 barrels; 41 gallons, $40 00@41 00; hhds, 82 gallons $80 00; in cases, 2 dozen bottles, $2 75. William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of eight dozen bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₰ dozen; Robertson's spruce ale, $2 75@3 00 ₰ dozen; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale, $2 75 ₰ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₰ dozen.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—We quote alcohol at $2 30@2 40 ₰ gallon. Highwines are active and firm at $1 06@1 08 ₰ gallon.

ASHES—Soda ashes refined, $4 00@4 50 ₰ cwt, for high test; common $3 00@3 25; black lead $5 00; arsenic $5 00; potash $7 50@8 00; pearl ash $8 00@8 50; nitrate of soda $7 50@8 75.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Quoted as follows: 1 ₰ cans $1 50 ₰ dozen; ¼ ₰ cans $3 00; 1 ₰ cans $5 50; 5 ₰ cans $26 00; 10 ₰ boxes 40c ₰ ₰. Market steady and demand good.

BROOMS AND BROOM CORN—Broom corn is firm at the late advance. Choice hurl is quotable at $150@160 ₰ ton; good do, 1@1½c; good to choice stalk braid, 10@11½c; inferior brush, 8@9½c. Brooms are also strong in value and firm. The following are makers' prices: No. 2 common, $2 00; No. 3 hurl, $3 25; No. 4, $4 25; No. 5, $4 75; No. 6, $4 50; which ought to feel $4 75; No. 4 do, $5 00; fancy parlor, $5 50; steamboat brooms, $1 25@5 00; whisps, plain, $1 50@ 2 00; whisp, fancy, $1 75@2 25; toy brooms, $1 75@2 25.

COAL AND COKE—Trade for Connellsville coke is somewhat improved, the demand coming from the Eastern Pennsylvania furnaces caused by the stoppage of the anthracite mines. Prices range at $2 75@3 00 per ton, delivered free on board in Pittsburgh. Anthracite coal is steady at $7 00 per ton, delivered at the yards on track $6 50 ₰ ton.

CEMENT—Louisville hydraulic cement $2 00@ 2 25 ₰ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $1 75@2 00 ₰ bbl; Rosedale cement $3 50@4 00; Youghiogheny $1 75@2 00; Portland cement $5 50@6 00; calcined plaster—Sandusky $1 65@1 75 ₰ bbl; Cleveland $1 65@1 75; Gibsonburg $1 65@ 1 75; Fremont, $1 65@1 75; Eastern in lots of 31 400@1 50 per barrel. Calcined plaster—French $4 00@4 50 per barrel; Eastern Canada $3 25@3 75; Grand Rapids, Michigan $2 25@2 50; Western brands $3 00@3 25.

CRACKERS AND BISCUITS—Quotations are given at $7 75@8 00 for best quality; second quality $7 50 @7 75.

HOPS—We quote Kentucky rough at $100 00 @105 00 ₰ ton; double dressed 12½@13c ₰ lb.

PAPER—Ruling paper quoted ₰ lb, as to quality: manilla 8@9c; straw papers 6@12c; bag wrapping 4½@4½c; felt papers 4@4½c; straw news 6@7c; rag news 12½@13c; book papers 14 @16c ₰ lb.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $6 00 ₰ gross.

RAGS—Cotton at 2½@3c ₰ lb; and woolen at 3@c.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $6 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—Car lots, ₰ barrel, $1 60; jobbing lots, $1 80@1 85.

WOODEN WARE—We quote Ohio tubs at $6 00@6 50; two-hooped buckets, per doz, $2 15; No. 1 tubs, three hoops, per doz, $3 00; No. 2 tubs, two hoops, per doz, $2 50; No. 3 tubs, two hoops, per doz, $6 00; washboards, patent crimp, per doz, $2 25; washboards, common, per doz, $2 25; clothes pins, round head, per box, 90c.

PITT

THE

Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., March 15, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Hum.	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	29.515	47	85	Calm	....	Cloudy.
2 P.M.	29.304	63	72	S. W.	Brisk.	Cloudy.
9 P.M.	29.417	52	96	W.	Brisk.	Cloudy.

Mean barometer.... 29.412 Highest thermom. 68.5
Mean thermometer. 53.5 Lowest thermom... 42
Rainfall..... 0.17

Sociables and Spellings.

At the Fourth United Presbyterian church, corner Penn avenue and Seventeenth street, there will be given a series of sociables and spelling matches on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Tuesday evening, Springfield School vs. O'Hara; Wednesday, Pittsburgh teachers vs. Allegheny; Thursday, volunteer "mines." 6

City Printing.

The committee of Pittsburgh Councils on city printing met last evening, Mr. Fox in the chair.

A bill of the *Freiheits Freund* for six months advertising, under contract, $1,000, was ordered to be paid.

Messrs. Foley, Atkinson and Fraelich were appointed a committee to ascertain why bids for printing are not advertised for.

Sunday Business to be Stopped.

Chief of Police McCandless yesterday prosecuted, before Mayor McCarthy, Messrs. Dodds & Davis and Wyland Bros., proprietors of billiard saloons, on Fifth avenue, for keeping their establishments open on Sunday. It is stated that the "ivories" are kept in motion throughout the entire day on Sunday at these establishments, and that crowds of boys and young men are in the habit of assembling there. A hearing in the cases has been fixed for next Friday afternoon.

Allegheny Mortuary Report.

Twenty-four deaths occurred in Allegheny last week. Causes—Catarrh fever, 1; scarlet fever, 2; typhoid fever, 1; inflammation of the brain, 1; congestion of brain, 1; diptheria, 1; dropsy, 2; marasmus, 2; spasms, 3; phthsis, 1; consumption, 1; accidents, 1; bronchopneumonia, 1; croup, 1; pneumonia, 1; premature birth, 1; scarletena anginosa, 1; puerperal metritis, 1; dentition, 1; desquamative nephritis, 1. They consisted of 23 white and 1 colored; 9 males and 15 females.

That Circular Hunt.

Our Baden, Pa., correspondent, "Rose Bud," writes of the circular hunt which came off in his vicinity Saturday, that it was so badly conducted that the foxes were permitted to escape before the circle closed in. He says that upon the arrival of the hunters at the center, the south wing was not on hand, and although several foxes were seen during the day, not one was visible at the closing in. The "circular hunters," in order to have fun, must conduct their movements more systematically.

Row in a Street Car.

Conductor Blake McClelland, of the Birmingham line, yesterday made information before Alderman Hasson, charging a man named Hanna with assault and battery. It is alleged that Hanna and another man got on Conductor McClelland's car Sunday afternoon, and refused to pay their fare, whereupon the conductor, with the assistance of the driver, attempted to eject them. This led to a fight, in which McClelland was knocked down and severely beaten. A warrant is out for Hanna.

City Warrant Protested.

One of the January police warrants issued to Samuel Paisley, a member of the force under Mayor Blackmore, was presented by a notary public at the City Treasury, and there being no funds, its non-payment was protested, and Mayor McCarthy was notified. The January warrants issued late in February and the first after the passage of the Appropriation ordinance, did not specify any time for payment. Subsequently the Treasurer and Controller, seeing that difficulty might be encountered by reason of interested parties purchasing, had all further warrants marked payable August 10th, at which time it is expected sufficient taxes will have been paid in to redeem the outstanding current liabilities. Mayor McCarthy stated to the notary, we are informed, that if there was likely to be any expense to the city in consequence of the want of funds, he would decline to sign any more warrants until the treasury was prepared to redeem them. The warrant of ex-Policeman Paisley had been sold in Baltimore, and was sent to the Exchange Bank here for collection.

The "Relief" Fund Distribution.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In the distribution of the relief fund, as reported by Mr. John Dunlap, we find that no portion of it was assigned to the Homœopathic Hospital, an institution thoroughly charitable and in much need of funds. During this whole winter it has been overcrowded with sick, of whom about five-sixths have been charity patients.

The work done by its dispensary department alone would entitle it to a full share of this fund, inasmuch as its dispensary staff have prescribed for and visited nearly one thousand sick poor every month.

It is an unpleasant thing to make comparisons, but in this case it seems justifiable to refer to one of the institutions that did receive a share in this distribution. I am informed by persons who should know, that Mercy Hospital has not been receiving any but pay patients for several years, and, if this be true, it very much needs the proceeds of distributing this or any other fund, in favor of such institutions. But, at all events, unjust discriminations should not be made. JUSTICE.

Centennial Tea Party.

The ladies managing this enterprise are highly gratified to find their efforts so liberally seconded by the munificent donations already received from so many of our citizens; and in thus acknowledging these it is their hope that many others only waiting to give expression to their co-operation may be incited to similar deeds; for doubtless it is the earnest wish of the patriotic citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny to contribute to the celebration of our country's Independance in a manner commensaurate with their characteristic liberality.

The contributions thus far are as follows:

The managers of Library Hall have given the free use of their splendid building for such time as may be required for this celebration. Also tendering the service of Mr. D. Larkb stage carpenter.

Lumber required for putting the building in suitable condition for the Tea Party has been donated as follows:

Mr. R. M. Leonard, 800 feet flooring boards.

Exner Bros., 500 feet flooring boards.

Mullen, Steen & Co., 500 feet flooring boards.

Heath & Speer, 200 feet flooring boards, and more if required.

W. F Richardson, J. B. Hill, A. Kelly, Hill, Patterson & Son, each 200 feet flooring boards.

Samuel Douglass, 300 feet scantlings.

B. F. Rynd, 320 feet scantling.

Richey, Smith & Co., 320 feet scantling.

Nails, etc., have been donated as follows: Chess, Smyth & Co., 1 keg ten penny nails.

Graff, Bennett & Co., 1 keg clinch nails.

Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, all the iron bolts that may be required.

W. G. Johnston & Co., all the admission cards that will be wanted.

F. Sellers & Co., 20 sugar cured hams.

D. M. Jenkins, all the garden grown tea that will be required.

Mr. Ed. C. Negley, all the ice needed.

B. A. Elliott & Co., cut flowers to the amount of fifty dollars.

J. Adams, Esq., free transportation for a miniature ship, purchased in the East.

Jos. Woodwell, Jr., one gross tea spoons, three dozen knives and forks.

S. S. Marvin & Co., Boston brown bread and other articles in his line of business.

Dilworth Bros., all the coffee required.

Reese Owens, beef tongues and a box of oranges.

Captain Elliott, on Sixth street, dozen rustic baskets, some rustic seats, with other handsome decorations.

All the sugar that will be required has been donated by a donor too modest to give his name.

Donations may be tendered to Mrs. Judge Jones, or through any of the managers.

M. S. STEWART, Secretary.

AN EXTRAORDINARY TRIBUNAL.

New Way to Settle Disputes Between Capital and Labor.

The Coal, Iron and Steel Interests to be Run by Nine Laborers, one Coal Operator and One Manufacturer!—The Most Remarkable Scheme of the Age.

The text of House Bill No. 178, being the act for the adjustment of disputes between coal, iron and steel operators and their employees, has been published, and is severely denounced by all the leading Philadelphia papers, not only as an infamous attempt to establish a dictatorship over the entire coal, iron and steel business, but a blow at the industrial prosperity of the Commonwealth. That our readers may be able to form their own opinions, we append a synopsis of the bill, which would occupy about four columns of this paper:

The first section requires all persons and corporations engaged in the coal, iron and steel business, to furnish monthly under oath to the Bureau of statistics a detailed statement of their business, including prices paid for mining, manufacturing, transporting etc., and prices received for the product; capital invested, wages paid, etc.

The second section prescribes a penalty for false statements, by fine not exceeding $500, and imprisonment not exceeding seven years.

The third section provides that whenever any dispute may arise between any of said persons or corporations, and any of their employees, and no adjustment can be had between them, the dispute shall, in application of either party, be a board of twelve persons known as the "Industrial Board of Pennsylvania."

The fourth section prescribes the method of constituting the Tribunal which is to consist of the Secretary of Internal affairs, one coal operator, three coal miners, three coal laborers, one manufacturer of iron or steel, and three laborers on iron or steel. The next two sections prescribe the oath that these persons are to take, and provides for filling vacancies.

Section seventh authorizes the Tribunal to meet every other month, at Harrisburg, and remain in session not exceeding five days, unless the public interests require a continuance, which shall not exceed five days additional.

Section eighth authorizes the Tribunal to adjust all questions and disputes relative to wages, salaries or alleged unfair dealing or oppressive conduct between said operatives and their employees, and the Tribunal may declare what shall be the wages or salaries of said employees; and such wages shall be paid by said operators until at least the next session of the Tribunal. The wages are to be based upon the last monthly return of the operator or operators, at whose works the difficulty exists, with such other testimony as they may choose to hear. This section also gives the Tribunal power to summon persons, and cause to be produced books papers, or documents, from any point in the State.

Section nine decrees that all persons engaged in the business of mining coal, or manufacturing iron or steel, shall pay their employees at the end of every two weeks, in lawful money, and not in goods, wares, merchandise or commodities of any kind. It denies the employer the right, in any suit for wages, to offset the claim by goods of any kind, or even taxes; and also denies the right of appeal or stay of execution, except as against any sum claimed which the employer swears was not earned. It also prohibits any employer from discharging or oppressing any employee for refusing to purchase or take goods in payment of wages.

The tenth section requires the coal operators, in their monthly statements, to set forth the amount of coal mined and stocked, sold and unsold, in and out of the State; and if it appears that they have more coal on hand than they would be required to under their contracts, during a period of thirty days, then the Tribunal shall notify said operators to reduce their stock to a thirty days' supply. If they fail to do so in three days after six days' notice, then the Governor shall order the Sheriff of the county in which said excess may be, to sell the same, after public notice, and return the proceeds to the owner, less the costs. If the coal reserve is outside the State, then the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the works are situated shall enjoin and restrain further operations until the excess is reduced to a thirty days' supply.

Section eleventh prohibits the Tribunal from fixing or adjusting such wages as would reduce the profits on coal, iron or steel to less than six per cent. on capital invested.

Section twelfth provides for a clerk, at a salary of $1,200 per annum, to file the monthly statements.

Section thirteenth requires the Tribunal to send certified copies of their proceedings to the Governor, and also such portions as may be necessary to any person or corporation affected thereby. Should the record show any substantial violation of the provisions of this act, or any award of damages made by the Tribunal, in favor of any employee, by reason of said violations, (such as discharging without reasonable cause, or for refusing to buy goods) has not been paid, then, after five days notice, the Governor shall appoint a person to take limited possession, in the name of the Commonwealth, of all the property of said persons or corporations, refusing or neglecting to comply with the awards of the Tribunal. The limited possession is to be held until the Governor orders its release; and the net profits earned, while the owners were dispossessed, shall be paid over to them.

The fourteenth section provides that the "receiver" shall be well versed in the business, and shall receive not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars a day for his services, as the Governor may determine.

The fifteenth section fixes the salary of the Tribunal at five dollars per day each, for every day's attendance, with five cents a mile for each mile traveled at each session; also fixes fees of witnesses, etc. The three following sections relate to the organization of the Tribunal.

Section nineteenth authorizes the Tribunal to award damages to any employee, if he be treated oppressively, or discharged without reasonable cause, but the award shall not be in excess of what his actual wages would have been, or the loss in consequence of the retention of his wages.

Under section twentieth, the Governor shall restore any works of which the owners may have been dispossessed, as soon as he is satisfied that they intend to comply, but no sooner. And if the receiver finds that the works do not pay, or that the net profits are less than six per cent. on the capital, he shall notify the Governor, giving the reason why the works do not pay, whereupon the Governor may order them to close down until the next session of the Tribunal, when they shall fix other wages or salaries.

Section twenty-first relates to hearings before the Tribunal; section twenty-second to sheriffs' fees, etc., and section twenty-third to the manner of drawing the members of the Tribunal.

Section twenty-fourth requires the Tribunal to state in their record whether stocks are being held in the name or names of other persons than those engaged in mining coal and whether any person or company engaged in coal, iron or steel is selling said coal, iron or steel below the market price, in order to cut down the wages of employes; and if so, it shall subject the works to seizure, as provided in section thirteen.

Such are, in brief, the provisions of this extraordinary bill. It is no wonder that the press of the State has sounded the alarm, and that the coal, iron and steel interests are up in arms against the measure.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Common Pleas No 1—Judges Sterrett and Stowe.

The case of Christopher Hughes vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, an appeal from the award of viewers, is on trial before Judge Stowe.

Washington McClintock, *Jr., et al.* vs. Robert Osborne and John Carrier: *sci. fa.* on a mechanics' lien. Verdict for plaintiff in the sum $2,466 73.

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A. McClintock & Co. vs. Mark Campbell, contractor, and John McElvey, owner: a *sci. fa.* on a mechanic's lien. On trial before Judge Sterrett.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

There was but one case tried yesterday—Michael Hamerar vs. J. N. Shaffer; action on a book account. Jury out. No other cases being ready, court adjourned until this morning.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Ewing.

Commonwealth vs. John S. Patterson, indicted on oath of F. D. Briggs for false pretenses. *Nolle prossqui* allowed on payment of costs by prosecutor.

The jury in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Emanuel DeRoy, indicted on oath of Patrick M. Stack, for obstructing an officer, returned a verdict of not guilty, and directed each party to pay one-half the costs.

William Kauffman, against whom there were three indictments for false pretenses, and who plead guilty to two of the indictments and was found guilty on the other, was fined five dollars and costs in each and sent to the workhouse six months.

Commonwealth vs. Abraham DeRoy, indicted on oath of Patrick M. Stack, for assault and battery. Defendant found not guilty and prosecutor directed to pay the costs.

William B. Hanlon, indicted for a violation of the livery act is on trial.

J. D. Barnes and John Marr, indicted on oath of James Harrower for larceny, were found not guilty.

The case of Myers and Murray, for the murder of Wahl, near Perrysville, will be called this morning.

SELECT COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

The Temporary Loan Ordinance Passed —Other Financial Business—Precautions Against Small-pox—After the Board of Revisors.

A special meeting of the Select Branch of Pittsburgh Councils was held yesterday afternoon, Dr. A. H. Gross, President, in the chair.

THE TEMPORARY LOAN ORDINANCE.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting,

Mr. Shipton, from the Finance Committee, presented the ordinance providing for a temporary loan to the amount of $125,000, to pay interest on Penn avenue bonds due April 1st. The ordinance is affirmatively recommended by the committee.

Mr. Metzgar presented to following as a substitute:

WHEREAS, by the Controller's statement, published February 16, 1875, it appears that the sum of $83,484 50 is the balance in the Treasury belonging to appropriation No. 1, namely, interest, and whereas there is no deficiency in the City Treasury, therefore

Resolved, That this amount be applied to the payment of interest on street bonds now falling due, and that the city controller is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of $30,000 for a period not exceeding one year at seven per cent. per annum, payable in currency.

Messrs. Littell and Shipton, during some discussion that followed, said the difficulty could not thus be obviated.

Mr. Metzgar asked whether a four years loan could be consistently approved.

Mr. Shipton said he thought so, and that it might be injudicious to make the loan for a shorter term in view of the fact that there has been no experience as yet is making collections under the Penn avenue act and there might be delays.

Mr. Littell raised the point of order that under Mr. Metzgar's resolution, the interest would be paid out of general funds, whereas, it was due only from those benefitted by the improvements for which the bonds were issued.

The chair decided the point well taken, and ruled Mr. Metzgar's resolution out.

A motion to suspend the rules was then put and carried, and the ordinance was read a second time.

On the third reading the ayes and nays were called agreeably to law and the ordinance was passed finally by a vote of ayes 46, nays 1, Mr. Metzgar.

OTHER FINANCIAL BUSINESS.

Mr. Shipton then reported negatively the ordinance providing for the consolidation of the market appropriations into one. He stated that that act was to be done.

On motion of Mr. Littell the ordinance was negatived.

Mr. Shipton now presented the resolution as passed by the Finance Committee, providing for the payment of $2,000 each to D. T. Watson and estate of the late H. B. Swoope, fees for services in Nation Bank trouble.

Mr. Rafferty thought the city never ought to have engaged to pay such bills. He believed that Mr. Watson had earned it and Mr. Swoope had not, and that only the former should be paid. Mr. Rafferty moved that so much of the resolution as referred to Mr. Swoope be struck out.

The amendment was lost and the resolution, as presented from the Finance Committee, was adopted—ayes 34, nays 9.

The resolution exonerating John Cronwin from payment of certain taxes was adopted.

Mr. Littell presented the resignation of Thomas S. Mitchell, Esq., member from the Twenty-first ward, which was accepted.

Also, a resolution providing for an election to fill the vacancy. Adopted.

Mr. Dunlap offered a resolution providing for a warrant to the amount of $924 43 charge against the city for Forbes street sewer. Referred to the Street Committee.

REPAIRS TO THE SAMSON.

Mr. Harrison presented a joint resolution authorizing the Controller to draw a warrant for repairs done to old water works, when approved by the Water Committee. Mr. Harrison explained that the breaking of the engine required prompt action, and bids could not be advertised for.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Braun presented a resolution providing for the payment of Dr. McCoy, City Physician. Laid over.

Also, a resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to examine and report as to the best plan to show street grades. Adopted, and Messrs. Braun and Froelich were appointed for Select Council.

THE CITY'S HEALTH.

Mr Braun offered preamble and resolution, requesting the Board of Health to make all efforts to prevent small pox as an epidemic, and to require vaccination. The resolution was, on motion laid over, members claiming it as unnecessary, the Board being competent and willing to perform all proper duties.

Mr. Musgrave moved to reconsider the ordinance, decided at last meeting, providing for the location of Robinson street. The motion carried and the ordinance was then passed finally.

Mr. McClung's ordinance regulating the running of railroad trains within the city limits. Referred to the Railroad Committee.

AFTER THE REVISORS.

Mr. Bruce, after some remarks upon the action of the Board of Revision, relative to their action in reducing certain wards ten per cent. in valuation, offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of five (two from Select and three from Common Council) be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire by what authority the Board of Revision of this city, any award of damages made by the Tribunal, in favor of any employee, by reason of said violations, (such as discharging without reasonable cause, or for refusing to buy goods) has not been paid, then, after five days notice, the Governor shall appoint a person to take limited possession, in the name of the Commonwealth, of all the property of said persons or corporations, refusing or neglecting to comply with the awards of the Tribunal. The limited possession is to be held until the Governor orders its release; and the net profits earned, while the owners were dispossessed, shall be paid over to them.

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DISTILLED SPIRITS.

Circular Letter to Supervisors and Collectors.

Commissioner Douglass has issued the following circular to Supervisors and Collectors throughout the country:

The recent advance in the rate of taxation on distilled spirits will be an additional incentive to frauds, and must be met by an adequate increase of vigilance on the part of officers intrusted with the collection of the revenue. In response to inquiries of members of Congress when the matter was under consideration, the Commissioner stated that in his opinion this could be collected. This opinion was based on the Commissioner's faith in the ability, energy and integrity of his assistants throughout the country. He therefore, calls upon you now most earnestly not to disappoint his hopes and the expectations of the country that the increase of revenue will correspond with the increase of the tax. To this end the Commissioner asks your most careful scrutiny into the character and conduct of the officers placed directly in charge of distilleries, without whose connivance or inefficiency it would seem that frauds could not long be continued. If at any time you have reason to believe that the best interests of the service demand removals you will not hesitate to advise them. You will renew, in yourselves, also, that confidential vigilance over the whole subject which shall serve not only as an earnest to all your subordinates of what is expected and demanded of them, but as a warning to the evil disposed and a guaranty to all good citizens that this branch of the public service is being faithfully administered. The Commissioner feels that this appeal will and will sustain you in your endeavors to the very utmost of his ability and official power.

THE INTERNATIONAL BANK.

Stockholders ask for Its Dissolution.

A bill in equity has been filed in the Common Pleas No. 2, by Alex. and James Barton, Wm. Barr, M. Mawhinney, and others, against Wm. H. Mechling, Wm. McKee, S. R. McLean, A. M. Barr, James Schoonmaker, James Peasly, Rev. Paul R. Kerr, Wm. C. Aughinbaugh, executor of John Watt, deceased, and others, asking for a dissolution of the co-partnership under the name of the International Bank, and for the appointment of a receiver. The bill sets forth that the co-partnership was formed on or about the 1st of May, 1873, and has continued since that time at Market and Liberty streets, where it is still carried on. The capital stock was $100,000, divided into 4,000 shares of twenty-five dollars each. Subscriptions were taken to the amount of $88,250, but of this sum only $32,275 were actually paid in. Both plaintiffs and defendants are subscribers to the aforesaid stock, and the plaintiffs allege that the actual paid up capital is so small that the bank is unable to do a profitable business, and for this and other reasons a large majority of stockholders, in number and interest, at a meeting held on the 4th of March, 1875, resolved and expressed their desire to dissolve the co-partnership, but as some of the members are largely indebted to the bank for discounts or from some other cause, a unanimous vote in favor of such dissolution was not given. The court is therefore requested to dissolve the firm and appoint a receiver, Thursday, the 18th inst., was fixed for a hearing.

THE "FORTY-NINERS."

Twenty-Sixth Anniversary of the Pittsburgh and California Enterprise Company.

Many of the surviving members of the famous company of "Forty-Niners," who left this city in 1849, for the California gold mines, met last evening at Schildecker's, No. 22 Diamond street, to celebrate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the organization of the Pittsburgh and California Enterprise Company.

The meeting was called to order by Major F. C. Negley, who suggested that as the President, Mr. D. P. Estep, had not arrived, a temporary presiding officer be selected, and the meeting proceed to business. Major Negley was then unanimously chosen as temporary chairman.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read by the Secretary and approved.

The roll was called, and the following members answered: P. F. Kane, J. S. Willock, L. Cupps, William Cooper, J. K. Dorrington, James Connor, W. F. Marthens, J. Hughes, J. Ludwig, D. Hughey, W. J. Bender, J. Glenn, H. Wilson, D. P. Estep, Thomas Gregg, John Smith, J. Means, F. C. Negley, Alexander Moore, Dan. Barnhoulden, and J. Moore. Besides the above mentioned members, there were present a number of invited guests, making up a party of about fifty. Of about three hundred members on the roll, one hundred were reported dead.

After the calling of the roll, the company seated themselves at the table, which was loaded with choice viands, and an endless variety of California wines which, it is needless to state—

At the proper stage of the banquet, Major Negley, arose and announced the toasts, as follows:

Our Country. Response by Mr. A. T. Gregg.

The Pioneers of California in 1849. Response by J. C. Moore, of Nevada.

Our Absent Comrades. Response by J. Hughes.

Our Dead Comrades. Drank standing and in silence.

California. Response by J. K. Dorrington.

The Press. Response by J. M. Caldwell, Esq.

Our Trip to California in 1849. Response by Capt. Lockwood, of Moundville, W. Va.

Mr. W. J. Bender, who was wont to cheer the boys on their trip across the plains a quarter of a century ago, was called upon for a song, and responded with "Auld Lang Syne," the company joining in the chorus. This was followed with "Home Again," and other popular songs.

Brief speeches were then made by several persons. Among the additions of the evening was one by Captain Lockwood, of Moundsville, West Virginia. The Captain commanded the steamboat Consignee, on which the "Forty-niners" embarked in this city for St. Joe, at which point they took the road across the plains. The speaker said: "Twenty-six years ago to-day I started from Pittsburgh with the steamboat Consignee, loaded with four hundred and forty-four men, one woman and ninety-six horses and mules. We had a jolliest trip I ever experienced in all my days of steamboating. We were sixteen days out from Pittsburgh to St. Joe; for, you see, my company was so agreeable that I was in no hurry to part with it. Some days the high winds and waves would compel me to tie up, on which occasions my passengers would disembark and go out hunting for game. When I was ready to proceed on my trip, it invariably took me three or four hours of vigorous whistling and rolling to get the boys on board again. One morning we had no eggs for breakfast, and just to let you know, boys, what a jolly set you were in your young days, I will remind you that you compelled me to land and you tied up now until I sent the steward out to "skirmish" for eggs. He succeeded in securing a barrel of eggs, when I was permitted to resume my trip. Oh, boys, you were a jolly, healthy set of fellows. It just cost me one hundred dollars a day to feed you while you were on my boat."

Captain Lockwood was followed by Mr. J. C. Moore, of Nevada; Mr. Baird, of California; Mr. Dan Barndollar, of Washington, and Mr. Cooper, the Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Company. This gentleman related in an amusing manner a story of his California experience. He was trudging along with a comrade, through the mining regions, when one day an old miner remarked to him that one of the wheels of his wheelbarrow had worn off. Conner at once concluded he had met with a serious loss, and he started back on foot to find, if possible, the lost "dish." After walking several miles he met two young fellows, to whom he related his loss, and asked them if they had found the "dish" of his wheel. They laughed at him and a fight ensued, after which explanations followed, and this was the first knowledge the speaker had about the "dish" of a wagon wheel. Mr. Connor's story was received with laughter and applause.

Several other members gave reminiscences of their experience as gold hunters, after which the company proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. Cooper was elected President; M. Kane, Vice President; James Connor, Corresponding Secretary; Mr. Willock, Treasurer; Mr. Hughes, Captain; Mr. J. K. Dorrington, First Lieutenant, and Mr. J. A. C. Moore, Second Lieutenant.

After passing a resolution to hold the next reunion in San Francisco, the meeting adjourned.

THE RIVERS.

Latest Reports From the Gorges.

KITTANNING.

The following dispatch was received from Kittanning last night: "The gorge left here this afternoon at four o'clock. The banks of the river at the lower end and middle of the town were full of ice. The river rose rapidly for about half an hour, causing the ice to spread and surge in a fearful manner, and suddenly without a moment's warning, it started the whole width of the river, overflowing the banks and doing no damage. The heavy ice about the bridge came thundering down, shaking the bridge from end to end and causing a general stampede among the hundreds of spectators who lined the banks. The river fell rapidly, and now occupies its usual channel. So far as heard from, no serious damage has occurred along the Allegheny."

LEECHBURG BRIDGE GONE.

The Kiskiminetas gorge broke this afternoon, carrying with it the county bridge at Leechburg.

OIL CITY.

Oil City reports four feet and rising, the ice running freely, with prospects of a general break-up. The Tidioute gorge was expected to break during the night.

PARKER'S LANDING.

Parker's Landing reports that the river rose at the rate of an inch an hour all day, with considerable ice running.

THE ALLEGHENY AT MIDNIGHT.

At twelve o'clock last night the Allegheny was still rising, and the ice was running out rapidly. Samuel Good's bath boat, lying at the Point, was badly damaged, having one side crushed in by a mass of ice.

It was reported that about one o'clock this morning a man and two children passed under the Hand street bridge on the roof of a house, screaming for help. This report, however, could not be traced to any reliable source.

The bridge over the Kiskiminetas, at Leechburg, which was carried away, was seen passing down during the night. There were three men on this bridge when it started, but they were rescued. A gas pipe which supplied a rolling mill on the river at Leechburg was carried away with the bridge, thus cutting off the supply of gas from the mill. As yet we have learned of no other serious damage caused by the ice.

On the Monongahela there was nothing occurred last night worthy of note.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Maggie Mitchell made a hit in "Lorle" last evening. She was well supported by Mr. Harris and the Opera House company. We haven't seen a more delighted audience for weeks. The same piece will be given to-night—for the last time, as we understand.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The Weston sisters, the Love sisters and the numerous other first class performers who made their initial appearance at this theater, last evening, were met by a large audience, who bestowed much and hearty applause. The programme was good from first to last, and will be repeated to-night.

The Temperance Alliance.

At a meeting of the Temperance Alliance, held yesterday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Thos. H. Rabe.
First Vice President—Rev. E. E. Swift.
Treasurer—C. L. Rosé.
Secretary—Wm. G. Warren.
Corresponding Secretaries—Dr. J. C. Kennedy, A. W. Black.
Vice Presidents—George Finley, Mr. Fulton, Revs. S. B. F. Woodburn, D. H. Pollock, John Peck (colored), W. H. Phipps, Lawrence, W. D. Moore, Rev. R. W. Pearson, D.D., Hollingshead, Melhorn, Vernon, J. D. Herr, and Dermitt, Mrs. Col. Duff, Mrs. A. W. Black, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. J. A. Allen, Mrs. Humphreys, Mrs. F. Torrens, Mrs. W. W. Carter and Mr. George Cotton. So the year 1875 was provided for.

The Secretary then read the call for a "grand national convention of the ministers and lay members of all the churches." This to take place in this city on May 12th.

An Express Agent in Trouble.

Mr. A. W. Morrison, Adams Express agent at East Liberty, has been arrested and held for a hearing on a charge of embezzlement, preferred by Mr. Harry Stoner, an officer of the company. It is alleged that on or about the 6th of the present month, the defendant, as agent and an employee of the Express Company, received a package from Smith & Donnelly, stock dealers, to be forwarded to E. Dem, of Caledonia, Ohio, which he appropriated to his own use.

FATAL SHOOTING.

A Mysterious Affair on Liberty Street—An Italian Shot in the Head—Was It Premeditated Murder?

Between seven and eight o'clock last evening, a shooting affair occurred on Liberty street, near Union Depot, which must result fatally. Giovanni Descatzi, an Italian, conducting the nut and fruit stand on the north side of Liberty street, opposite the old Pennsylvania Railroad depot, was shot by a young man named Antoni Guatelli, who, it is said, keeps the stand at Sixth avenue and Smithfield street. Whether the shooting was intentional or premeditated, or was an accident, as intimated, is not certain, and it was impossible, last evening, to ascertain the facts of the occurrence. At the time of the shooting ex-police officer Bailey was upon the other side of the street, and immediately with others ran to the scene. Descatzi was found wiping the blood from the side of his head and talking in Italian. Bailey and others finding him wounded started to lead him to a surgeon's office. When they arrived at Tenth street, going to Penn avenue, the injured man gave way and he had then to be carried to the office of Dr. J. H. McClelland. Dr. McClelland upon examination found that a ball had entered the left side of the head between the eye and the ear, and had evidently penetrated the brain. The Catholic clergy were sent for, and Father Grace and other Reverend promptly answered. Meantime the physician stated that he had no hopes of the recovery of the man.

He was subsequently removed to his residence, in Spiane's court, in the rear of the COMMERCIAL office, and Dr. Snively, physician to the Board of Health, and Dr. Donnelly were summoned. They remained with the unfortunate man for some time, but beyond relieving him of blood, by opening the wound, could do nothing for him. He remained insensible from the time he fainted at Tenth street. Before ten o'clock Guatelli, who is a young man, had given himself up and was placed in the lockup. No information could be obtained from him, as he claimed not to be able to speak English. It is said that he had just purchased a pistol, or revolver, and was showing it to his countryman, when it was accidentally discharged. Descatzi has a wife and three little children, and they are in a poverty-stricken condition. They have been living in a miserably furnished room on the floor of one of the buildings in the court named.

The Ball & Co. Failure.

Thomas Fawcett has filed a bill in equity in the Common Pleas against James H. Hopkins and a large number of other citizens of Pittsburgh, to compel them to settle an indebtedness due by E. Ball & Co., a manufacturing corporation of the State of Ohio, in which the defendants were stockholders. The company became indebted to the complainant in a very large sum, most of which was negotiable paper, on which he was merely an accommodation indorser. With the assistance of others, he purchased and had assigned to him, in 1874, all outstanding debts of the company, amounting to $427,272, which is still unpaid. The complaint sets forth that the defendants, who are wealthy men, have refused to pay, and the complainant seeks to force a settlement by bill in equity against the stockholders.

The Union Prayer Meetings.

The first of a series of Union prayer meetings to be held in the central churches, as called by ministers of various denominations, was held at Dr. Scovel's church, First Presbyterian, last evening. The attendance was moderately large. Mr. T. J. Gillespie, of the Young Men's Christian Association, led services, and Dr. Scovel presided at the organ.

Aldermen's Commissions.

Alderman Samuel McMasters, of the Fifth ward, Phillip Hoern, of the Twenty-sixth ward, and Ernest G. Krehan, of the Twenty-ninth ward, received their new commissions yesterday, and were sworn in. Their bonds in $3,000 were also filed. Alderman Hoerr assumes the duties of Deputy Mayor at once.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE hearing in the case of the East Liberty gamblers will take place to-day before the Mayor.

FRANK LANTZ, residing on Main street, Fourth ward, Allegheny, had his leg fractured yesterday in the Anchor Cotton Mills.

THE *College Journal*, published by the students of the Western University of this city, has been issued for the current month.

MR. G. DE YOUNG, reporter and business agent of the *Commercial Bat*, of Philadelphia, is in the city, interviewing our man